

Aerospace Career Day 2001 Special Supplement

More than 1,500 math and science students from most San Antonio school districts descended on Brooks last year for the second Aerospace Career Day. They spent the day attending 38 different classes and demonstrations that reflected the diversity of

scientific disciplines essential to the 21st century Air Force. This year the event has been expanded to two days. Learn more about Aerospace Career Day 2001 in this special pullout supplement.

Pages 1A-4A



The Development of Combat Power and Efficiency

Vol. 25, No. 4 -- Friday, March 2, 2001 -- Brooks AFB, Texas

Through the many Facets of Aerospace Medicine



From left, Dr. Dave Erwin, Air Force Institute for Environment, Safety and Occupational Health Risk Analysis director, and John Hinz show off the Hammer Award certificate. (Courtesy photo)

AFIERA nails down last Hammer Award

By Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing

Comments? rudolph.purificato@brooks.af.mil

Former Vice President Al Gore's National Partnership for Reinventing Government joined the Environmental Protection Agency in recognizing the work of Brooks scientist John Hinz, who shared with others the last Hammer Award presented to federal employees.

Hinz, chief toxicologist for the Air Force Institute for Environment, Safety and Occupational Health Risk Analysis Risk Assessment Directorate's Environmental Sciences Branch, was presented the award in January at the National Academy of Science in Washington, D.C. He was one of 36 members of the National Advisory Committee for Acute Exposure Guidelines Levels for Hazardous Substances to receive the award.

Gore created the Hammer Award during his first term to reward federal employees whose significant accomplishments contributed to the then Vice President's reinventing government initiative.

"This is the highest award I have ever received," said Hinz, who previously worked for the EPA. Hinz volunteered to represent the Air Force on the committee in 1996. Specifically, the committee's charter was to develop guideline levels for short-term exposures to airborne concentrations of acutely toxic, high priority chemicals.

"We focused on acute exposure guidelines for chemicals in commercial, industrial and military use," Hinz said, explaining that 'acute' equates to less than one day exposure. No national exposure guidelines for hazardous chemicals at the acute level existed prior to the committee's formation in the mid-1990s.

Hinz's committee work involved helping develop exposure guidelines for JP-8 jet fuel, hydrogen chloride, and chemical nerve agents VX and GB.



'Thumbs up' for new VIA route

Surrounded by U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine students and instructors, Col. Terry Nelsen, 311th Air Base Group commander, joins in a collective "thumbs up" recently. Students such as these airmen will

be able to take advantage of VIA Metropolitan Transit bus routes expanded to include Brooks. The buses will begin running Monday. For more on this story, turn to page 10. (Photo by Tech. Sgt. Pedro Ybanez)

USAFSAM's awards a 'Titanic' feat

By Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing

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The U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine challenged the award-winning film "Titanic" for earning the most honors by recently hauling in a boatload of Air Force Materiel Command medical service awards.

Like the partially-filmed-at-Brooks movie classic "Wings," which won the first academy award for best picture, USAFSAM earned the first AFMC "Team Aerospace Award," aerospace medicine's version of the Oscar.

"I love team recognition. I prefer it to individual recognition. This award recognizes the whole school," said Col. Rodger Vanderbeek, USAFSAM commander, when describing the award that was inaugurated in 2000.

USAFSAM earned the honor on the strength of its innovative approach to enhancing aerospace medicine management and operational readiness. "I think over the last couple of years the school has done more to reflect the Team Aerospace concept. We merged our former departments into a synergistic team that [fully] integrates all Air Force specialty codes [in aerospace medicine]," Vanderbeek said.

Now, Team Aerospace subject matter experts from various aerospace medical disciplines analyze the full spectrum of issues impacting missions or requirements.

This team approach was not fully implemented in the past, Vanderbeek explained, when decisions or recommendations were made based on partial



A visit from Cousin Benny

As I sat toiling at my desk, feverishly pounding out yet another issue of the Brooks *Discovery*, my right hand convulsing from the throes of carpal tunnel, my eyes blurred from squinting through the monitor's glare, the phone rang, shattering my concentration. I quickly slid the mouse pointer to "save" so as not to lose my place. I wasn't about to let the cacophonous clanging make me forget to put that eight of spades on that nine of hearts. No, sir.

"Wing Public Affairs – this is Steve."
"Steverino!"

I immediately knew who it was. Only my infamous Cousin Benny calls me that. "Benny? It's been a long time, cuz," I said.

"Not really. I talked to you this morning," he reminded me.

You see, Cousin Benny was staying at my place for a few days. It must have been Freudian. I was trying my best to forget. Having Benny visit is like letting a three-ring circus set up on your front lawn. It's like inviting the XFL to practice in your hallway. It's like ... well, you get the idea. Benny's kind of a hyper guy. He wants to see everything in San Antonio, including all the usual tourist spots. He wants to eat at the Tower Restaurant, ride a river barge, play a round at Brackenridge, feed the animals at the zoo and browse through every shop in the RiverCenter, all before lunch. He wants to stand where Davy Crockett last stood, shake his head at the wax figures in Ripley's, tube down the Guadalupe, sit wide-eyed at the six-story screen in the IMAX and still fit in a game of doubles at Blossom before dinner. He's exhausting.

But the worst thing of all is ... he wants to tour Brooks!

"So what do you have planned for today, Benny?"
"I thought I'd take you up on your offer to come out and see where you work," he said.

I didn't remember making the offer.
He continued. "I'm glad you told me about that big two-day special event you've got going on there," he said. "It sounds like a great time, although I don't understand it."

"Well, it's just for high school science and math students," I said. "Not old, er, I mean, mature men long out of grade school."

Benny was unfazed, of course. "Oh, that's all right," he said. I could picture him waving his beefy



By Steve VanWert

Discovery editor

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right hand in the air. "I'll fit right in. No one will notice."

Benny is 63 years old, weighs nearly 300 pounds and always wears clothes made in his favorite color, bright red – to match his hair. You could pick him out by satellite during Mardi Gras. Or maybe even without a satellite.

"Well, I think it may be too late to get on the guest list," I said. "Besides, I don't understand what would interest a big city fellow like you in little old Brooks." I was clutching at straws already.

"You told me there'd be parachuting," he said.
"Well, yes there will be."

"You told me there'd be a chemistry magic show."
"Well, yes there will be."

"You told me there'd be a centrifuge and a hyperbaric chamber and a chair that spins 'round and 'round."

"Well, yes there will be."
"And you told me it's going to last two whole days!" His excitement was heating up the earpiece in my government phone.

"Well, yes it's going to last two whole days."
"So," he almost screamed triumphantly, "Aerospace Career Day sounds like a great time!"

I had to think of something. My brain spun. My gray matter bubbled. The liquid in my inner ear boiled. Suddenly, I had an idea.

"Benny," I yelled.
"Yes, cuz?"

"Did you say 'Aerospace' Career Day?"
"Well, sure, that's what you told me it was called."

His voice frowned; well, it would have if it could have.

"Benny," I said, a smile finally crossing my face. "You can't come out here. It's not 'AEROSpace' Career Day. You misunderstood me. It's 'NARROWspace' Career Day. You can't weigh more than 120 pounds or you'll get stuck."

There was a sodden pause. "Oh. Can I still go to the zoo?"

I pushed back in my chair, visions of black eights on red nines dancing in my head. "Sure you can," I said. "Ask my wife, Mary, to give you a ride!"



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'Great leaders should never lead by the seat of their pants'

By Col. Bud Vazquez

GATO/MC2 SPO director

HANSCOM AIR FORCE BASE, Mass. (AFMCNS) — A long time ago, in a Pentagon office far, far away, a boss was driving his staff crazy. Several detailed engineering analyses were completed and rejected by this boss and always met with a scathing "do it again!"

The action officers were befuddled — the numbers were good, yet the general continually rejected them. Finally, a brave (or dumb) action officer went back into the lion's den. "Sir, the team is at a loss. There's no way the analysis is going to change. What are you really looking for?"

The reply was loud and immediate, "Don't they know I'm trying to get the contractor to have a little fear of competition?"

The light bulb went on as the action officer replied, "Well, why didn't you say so, sir?"

The truth was the boss had never made the time to tell the team his plan or objective. The team was obviously unfamiliar with his style, and consequently, untold hours had been wasted. Too often leaders expect people to learn leadership solely from watching us. As we get inundated with meetings and e-mail, we unconsciously put followers in the position where they have to divine our intentions, thoughts and experiences ad hoc, and thus, become better leaders all by themselves.

Leadership solely by example puts the onus for leadership learning solely on the follower, instead of a shared responsibility.

Well, I "ain't" buying it. Leadership by example is necessary, but not sufficient, for the kind of good leadership we need in the 21st century.

My "old mentor" called this "premeditated leadership." Webster defines premeditated as "... fully conscious willful intent and a measure of foresight and planning."

This means we must have a plan for teaching leadership that guides our actions and fights its way onto our schedule. Our leadership must be as much premeditated, as it is spontaneous.

What I offer here is simply that to be better leaders, to approach the quality of leader we are capable of becoming, we must do more than lead "by the seat of our pants."

Good leadership demands we take the time to be explicit about what we have learned about leadership and what we are thinking and trying to achieve as leaders.

What exactly does that mean? It fundamentally boils down to making time to discuss leadership with our regularly — talk about our expectations, our goals, our trial and error experiences. Commander's calls are necessary, but not sufficient, for good leadership.

If you don't have regularly scheduled blocks of time to meet with small groups (company grade officers, IPT leads, civilians, noncommissioned officers, etc.) you are not the leader you are capable of being if you don't meet with your new employees to explain your organizational mission, goals and your personal leadership expectations.

If you cannot remember having discussed a leadership book you have read with your "troops," or handed out a leadership article for reading lately, or discussing an Air Force topic — you guessed it — you are not the leader you are capable of being. You are cheating your people of the leadership they not only deserve, but desire.

Making deliberate, premeditated leadership discussions a priority is a crucial part of our leadership job descriptions.

The *Discovery* is online.
Go to <http://www.brooks.af.mil/HSW/PA/discovery>.



Are you physically combat ready?

By Maj. Paul Kimble
30th Transportation Squadron

VANDENBERG AIR FORCE BASE, Calif. (AFPN) — A few weeks ago at a squadron physical training session, I observed an NCO running at a furious pace. I caught up to her and asked, “What got into you today?” She replied, “I want to get this over with; I have a lot of work to do!”

Her approach to physical fitness typifies that of many in today’s Air Force. Too often we view time devoted to physical fitness as extracurricular. Therefore, we do not include time for physical fitness in our schedule, or it becomes the first activity cancelled when work gets in the way. Organized physical training at the unit level should be an integral part of our work day, weighted equally to some tasks we rate as critical, and higher than some events the value of which is questionable.

Our Air Force doctrine supports this assertion: “Air Force fitness programs encourage warriors to maintain a fit and healthy lifestyle so airmen are battle ready.”

Each one of us is an expeditionary airman who must be prepared to deploy anywhere in the world on short notice. Every deployment tests our physical abilities far beyond our day-to-day existence at home station. We may be asked to unload cargo, construct tents and build defensive fighting positions long before we get to eat a hot meal or sleep.

Physical fitness programs serve as a force multiplier. Staff Sgt. Mario Kuhn of the 76th Helicopter Flight here praised the virtues of the unit-level organized physical training he experienced while assigned to a NATO transportation unit.

“Those morning PT sessions really brought everyone together,” he said. They created camaraderie among all the Army, Navy and Air Force people.” Beyond this, Kuhn believed working out made him more productive. “PT made me feel more alert throughout the day,” Kuhn said. “I could tell the difference when I didn’t work out.” PT bolstered unit morale, he said, which in turn made a tough mission in Bosnia easier.

Some folks reason that they can get by without regular exercise and get in shape just before their fitness test. Focusing on the fitness test can be shortsighted; a deployment to Saudi Arabia may present a more difficult measure of fitness.

A study published in the May 1999 issue of Aviation Space and Environmental Medicine looked at the effects of heat stress and chemical protective clothing on military members. The study concluded, “In preparation for exercise in an uncompensable heat stress environment, short-term aerobic training offers little, if any, benefit and is not an adequate substitute for a high level of aerobic fitness resulting from habitual exercise and training.”

Others think that organized physical training has no place in the Air Force. I’ve overheard people say adding push-ups and crunches to the annual fitness test already make us too much like the Army. Kuhn disagrees.

“At first I didn’t understand the need for all the PT, but it was well worth it,” Kuhn said. “We were prepared for the physical challenges we faced in Sarajevo. We all felt better and we didn’t get sick as much.”

So, when you’re planning your week on Monday, pencil in some time for exercise. Better yet, organize a unit-level PT program to keep your



Senior Airman Julie Maxfield and 1st Lt. Karl Falk from the Air Force Materiel Command Top Dollar 2000 team work their way through the Tough Nut. All teams had 25 minutes to run the 15-obstacle course during the competition. Are you physically combat ready? (Courtesy photo)

warriors ready for battle. You’ll not only be implementing Air Force doctrine, you’ll be following the advice of Gen. Hap Arnold, who said in 1945: “No man expects to live forever. But the man in perfect physical condition will live longer, especially in combat.”

Brooks Clinic provides care for infants, as well

By Maj. Susan Davis
311th Medical Squadron

There seems to be a misconception that children younger than 1 year old cannot receive care or be enrolled at the Brooks Clinic. While there is not a pediatrician assigned to the clinic, our providers specialize in family medicine and provide full-spectrum primary care for beneficiaries of all ages: newborn, pediatric, teen, adult and geriatric. A basic tenet of primary care optimization is continuity of care through the enrollment of the entire family to the same primary care manager.

“Family Practice physicians and physician assistants are uniquely qualified to handle the primary care needs of the entire family, including babies,” said Dr. Todd Thames, 311th Medical Squadron Chief of Clinical Services and board-certified family physician.

If any of our patients, regardless of their age, have an illness or injury requiring the care of a specialist (orthopedics, surgery, pediatric specialists, internal medicine, etc.), they are promptly referred to a military or network specialist in the San Antonio area.

We provide outstanding family oriented primary care and currently have openings for TRICARE Prime enrollees, all ages and all categories. We are accredited by the Joint Commission for Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations and were recognized at the January TRICARE Conference as having the highest customer service rating of all CONUS ambulatory clinics in DoD for calendar year 2000. Our access to care is better than the TRICARE standard for a routine appointment. Same day appointments are available for acute illness or injury. Our patients have immediate telephone access to qualified registered nurses to assist with their healthcare needs.

If you currently have your children or spouse enrolled at another military treatment facility or with a network provider and would like to transfer to your primary care manager at Brooks Clinic, drop by the TRICARE Service Center in the base exchange complex and fill out a change request. For more information call 1-800-406-2832.



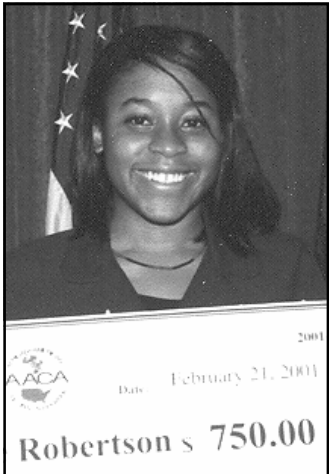
11 Brooks majors trade gold for silver

Eleven Brooks majors were notified Feb. 15 of their selection for promotion to lieutenant colonel.

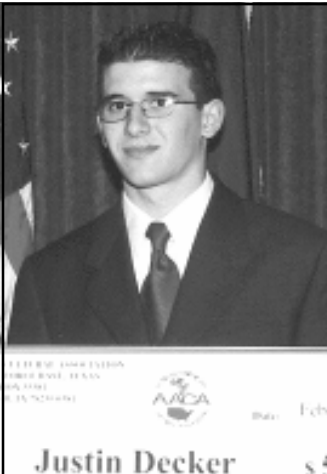
They are:

- Curtis Carter**
311th Human Systems Wing/CVX
- Michael Lindauer**
311th HSW/YA
- Nancy Dezell**
311th Medical Squadron
- Rosa Mancha**
311th HSW/XP
- Peter Brewer**
U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine
- Brian Blazicko**
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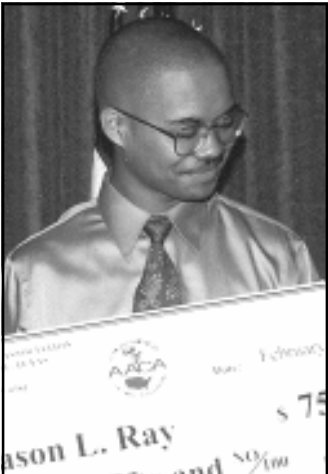
A total of 1,511 majors were selected for promotion Air Force-wide during this cycle.
The total list is available on Air Force Personnel Center's home page at <http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil>.



Robertson



Decker



Ray



Howe

4 win Bernard Randolph scholarships

By Maj. Neil Pryor
Brooks African-American Cultural Association

Two area high school seniors and two college students received Bernard P. Randolph scholarships during the annual scholarship luncheon Feb. 21 in the Brooks Club.

Gen. Lester Lyles, Air Force Materiel Command commander, was the guest speaker and presented the young men and women with oversized "checks" that reflected the cash awards.

In Category I, high school seniors planning on attending college full time this fall, the first place winner was Brittany Anne Robertson. She is a senior at Judson High School in Converse, Texas. Robertson plans on attending Florida State University or Baylor University in the fall. She received a check from the Brooks African-American Cultural Association for \$750.

The second place winner in Category I was Justin Decker, also a senior at Judson High School. Decker

plans on attending Texas A&M University this fall. He has a 3.5 grade point average and scored 1270 on the SAT. He received a check for \$500.

In Category II, students currently attending college part or full time, DoD personnel, military family members, active duty, Reservists or retired military, the first place winner was Rason Ray. Ray is a student at Palo Alto College in San Antonio. He wants to be a performer, acting in television or radio. Ray received a \$750 check from the AACA.

The second place winner in Category II was Sherard Howe, a student at Hampton University, Hampton, Va. She is a volunteer tutor for high school and college students in the Hampton area. Howe received a \$500 check.

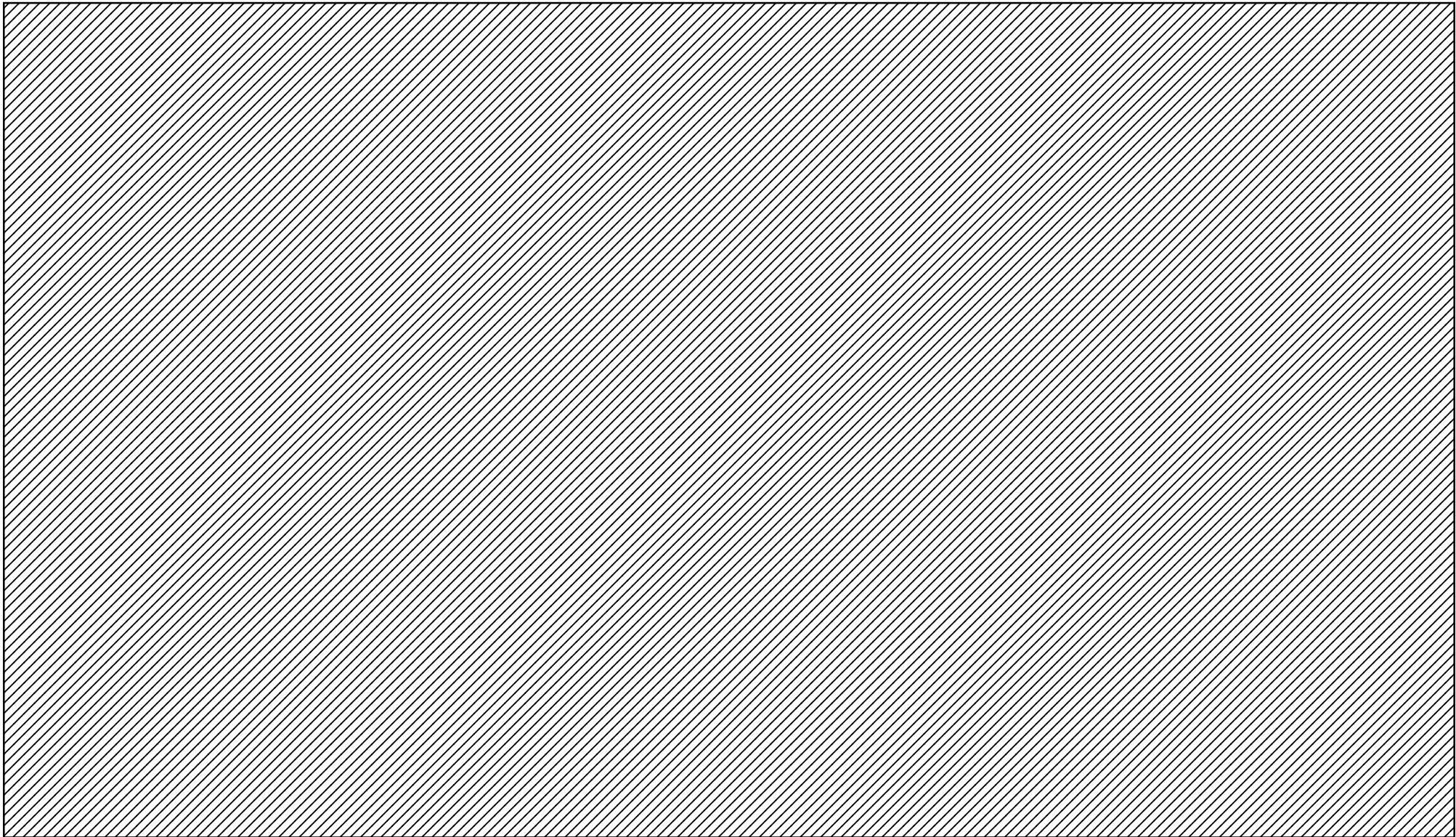
The Bernard P. Randolph Scholarship was established in 1992. It is named in honor of an African-American four-star general who was commander of Air Force Systems Command.

Applicants wrote essays on "How African-American Culture Has Shaped America."

Singing Cadets perform Saturday

The nationally-known Texas A&M University Singing Cadets will perform their annual San Antonio concert at 7:30 p.m. Saturday in San Antonio College's McAllister Auditorium, 1300 San Pedro, to help raise college scholarship funds for Bexar County high school students.

The performance marks the 37th consecutive year the group has staged a concert in San Antonio. Tickets are \$7 each and are tax deductible.
Call Mildred May at 341-1393 or 494-8028. A limited number of tickets will be sold at the door.





USAFSAM RULES

Continued from Page 1

input from a limited number of aerospace medical professionals.

As a result of this comprehensive integration, USAFSAM's team has become more efficient and responsive in serving the needs of the Air Force. This has led to enhanced professional development and aerospace medicine education and services being made available to a broader audience.

Besides the team award, several USAFSAM members have been individually honored.

Master Sgt. Paul Hiers is AFMC's "Ophthalmic SNCO of the Year." Hiers, 38, is a 20-year Air Force veteran from Madison, Fla.

"This is the second year in a row that I have won this award," said Hiers, superintendent of Aerospace Vision Research for the Clinical Science Division's Ophthalmology Branch.

Hiers was recognized, in part, for his contributions to the photo refractive keratectomy study.



Hiers



West

Capt. Norm West, director of Aerospace physiology officer education, is AFMC's "Company Grade Aerospace Physiologist of the Year."

The 35-year-old Sacramento, Calif., native earned the honor, in part, for his contributions to course development for all initial Air Force aerospace physiologists.

Senior Airman Jefredes Price is AFMC's "Aerospace Physiology Airman of the Year." Price, a 24-year-old Troy, Ill., native, has been an Air Force physiologist for three years.

He is a member of USAFSAM's Aerospace Education and Training Unit.



Price

Tech. Sgt. John Bean, a physiology craftsman, is AFMC's "Physiology NCO of the Year."



Bean

The 35-year-old Pine Bluff, Ark., native believes he earned the award for his Aerospace education and training work.

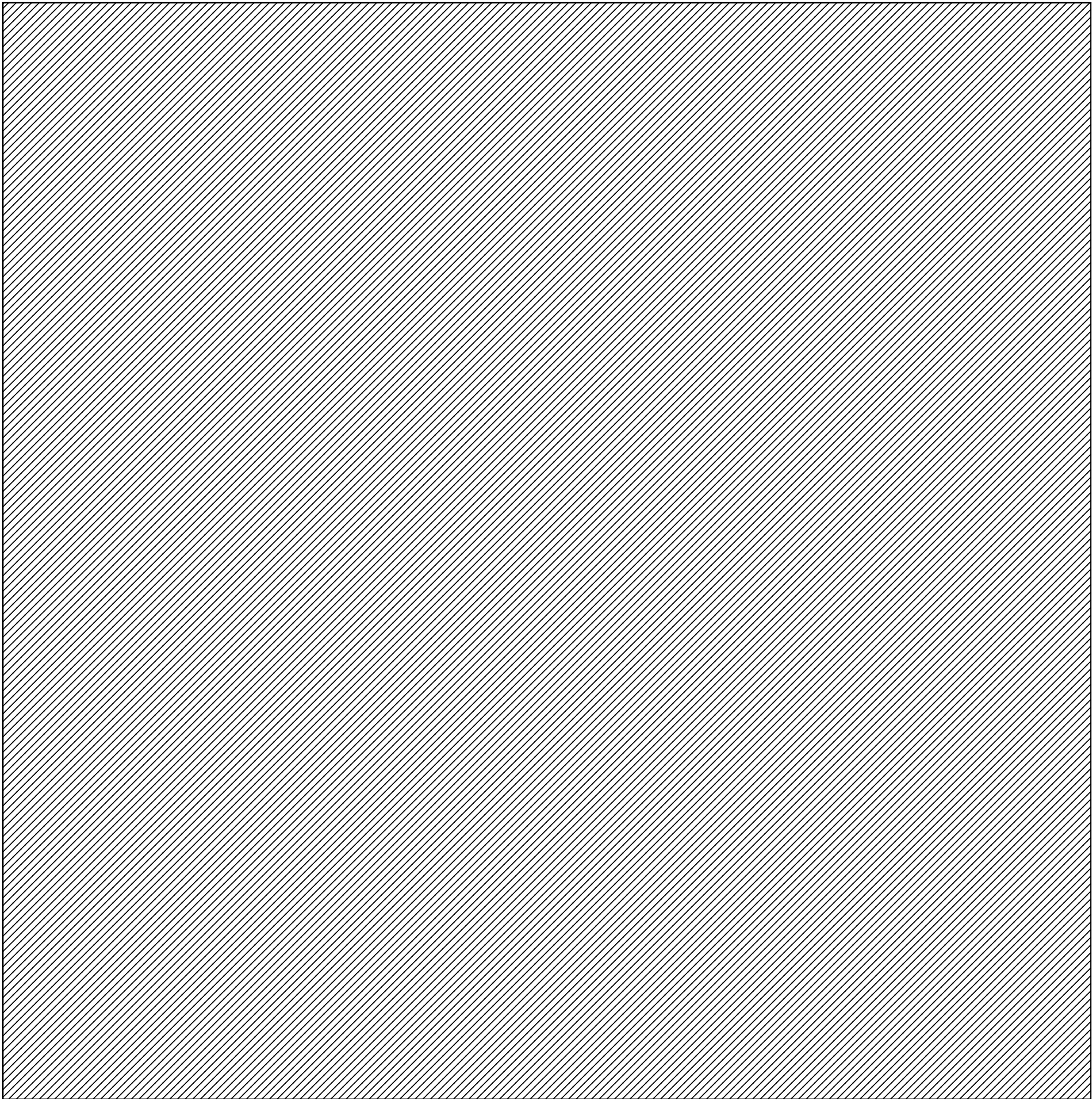
"I'm an instructor and course supervisor and writer for physiology craftsmen. I've had opportunities to teach in areas such as teaching navigators at Randolph [Air Force Base]," Bean said.

Col. Hadley Reed, in charge of the Training Division of the Aerospace Education and Training Department, said **Master Sgt. Robert Faust, AFMC "Aerospace Physiology SNCO of the Year,"** is one of his two top performers.

"He's my division NCOIC, and in some respects is chief administrator for the division. He has helped manage budget issues and the aerospace medicine primary course," Reed said.



Faust





Taxes, taxes, taxes — get help at the Brooks tax center

By Cerise Fenton

Discovery staff writer

Comments? cerise.fenton@brooks.af.mil

Thanks to the Brooks Law Office, and more than 40 volunteers, the Brooks community can get help preparing and filing their income taxes, free of charge. The legal center offers the service as part of the legal assistance entitlements available to active duty and retired personnel and their families. Department of Defense employees may also take advantage of the service, in order of preference.

From now through April 12, volunteer income tax assistance representatives from various organizations on base are donating their time at the tax center, operating in Bldg. 130, Room 149A. The center is open from 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Monday-Wednesday, and from 1-6 p.m. Thursdays.

If you've taken advantage of the tax assistance in past years you'll see some familiar faces since many of the volunteers have volunteered before, some for as long as 10 years, gaining more knowledge each tax season.

Senior Master Sgt. Terence Griffin, logistics systems flight superintendent at the 68th Intelligence Operations Squadron, is back for the second time at Brooks, but for the fifth season as a volunteer.

"I started doing it to learn more about taxes because mine were getting more complicated," he said. "I did it overseas too, but stateside is better because here you get to help the retirees." Now he comes back for the opportunity to help others, including the new volunteers, by lending his expertise.

According to Capt. Erica Litwin, the assistant Staff Judge Advocate, and officer in charge of the tax center, and Staff Sgt. Roy Roscoe, the noncommissioned officer in charge of civil law and the tax center, the program here just keeps getting better. This year, the center has extended its services to include evening hours on Thursdays, a satellite center at the U.S. Air

Force School of Aerospace Medicine for its personnel. It is located in a larger office which allows them to handle a greater client volume and help more people.

Simple 1040-EZ tax forms only require about 15 minutes to prepare, while more complex forms may take up to an hour. Although the office is extremely busy it only takes a phone call to schedule an appointment.

"I just called this morning and I got right in," said first-time client Carol Rogers, wife of Staff Sgt. Donald Rogers, a fire alarm room operator at the 311th Civil Engineer Squadron fire protection flight.

After paying someone off base more than \$100 to prepare their taxes last year, the Rogers' were drawn by both the convenience and the savings the tax center offers.

Representatives will also answer basic income tax questions and provide state and federal tax forms without an appointment.

In addition to the convenience the center provides, the required training program for all volunteers addresses military-specific issue which may surface. The training comes directly from Internal Revenue Service representatives to the program managers who, in turn, spend a week training the volunteers. The basic tax law training includes four days of instruction plus a test day, while the advanced training requires an additional 3 days of class.

To schedule an appointment call 536-2775 but before you head for the tax center for your appointment, there are a few steps you can take to avoid delays or complications. First, make sure you have all of your W-2s so you can file the prepared forms immediately.

Taxpayers who file electronic returns should receive direct deposit refunds within 10-14 days, and treasury check refunds within 21 days, but incorrect social security numbers and unreported name changes create problems and are the most common reasons for delays.

Once your taxes have been filed, you can check the status of your return by calling TeleTax at 1-800-829-4477, 24 hours a day.



Carol Rogers and daughter Jaycie watch as Senior Airman Ana Santiago-Buedo, left, checks some of their tax preparation paperwork at the Brooks tax center. (Photos by Cerise Fenton)



Staff Sgt. Roy Roscoe, NCOIC of the tax center, provides guidance to VITA representative Staff Sgt. Angela Garcia, a health physical occupational health consultant at the Air Force Institute for Environment, Safety and Occupational Health Risk Analysis.



Making a pledge to AFAF

Brig. Gen. Lloyd Dodd, right, 311th Human Systems Wing commander, and Col. Roy Ruff Jr., left, 311th HSW vice-commander, prepare to make their pledges to the Air Force Assistance Fund campaign as 1st Lt. Nora Merritt, AFAF keyworker, looks on. The AFAF

campaign began Feb. 26 and runs through March 30. "Commitment to Caring" is this year's theme. For information on the AFAF campaign, go to the website at www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/votefund, then click on "fundraising." (Photo by Tech. Sgt. Pedro Ybanez)



ACTION LINE

536-2222



Brig. Gen. Lloyd Dodd

311th Human Systems Wing commander

The **COMMANDER'S ACTION LINE** is your opportunity to make Brooks a better place to live, work and play.

If you have a suggestion for improvement, a complaint or a problem that you have not been able to resolve through normal complaint channels or the chain of command, call the COMMANDER'S ACTION LINE, 536-2222.

Only items of general interest will be published, so please leave your name and number for a personal response.

The base agencies listed below can be contacted directly:

311th Security Forces Squadron.....	536-3310
SFS after duty hours.....	536-2851
311th Civil Engineer Squadron.....	536-3861
311th Communications Squadron.....	536-6571
311th Air Base Group Logistics Division.....	536-3541
Safety.....	536-2111
Housing Maintenance.....	536-7000
Housing Office.....	536-1840
311th Services Division.....	536-2545
311th Medical Squadron (Clinic).....	536-4715
Military Personnel.....	536-1845
Civilian Personnel.....	536-3353
Military Pay.....	536-1851
Civilian Pay.....	536-2823
I.G. (FWA).....	536-2358
Military Equal Opportunity.....	536-2584
EEO Complaints.....	536-3702
Base Exchange.....	533-9161
Commissary.....	536-3549
Brooks City Base Project Office.....	536-6626

311th MO uses AFMC award-winning 'MO'

By Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing

Comments? rudolph.purificato@brooks.af.mil

mission," Almaguer said, "is bookkeepers of authorizations. We implement management programs and make adjustments to add or subtract authorizations."

They now can claim their office symbol is synonymous with Latin's *modus operandi* for the manner in which their 'method of operation' helped earn them three Air Force Materiel Command awards for management.

The 311th Human Systems Wing Manpower and Organization Office recently won the 2000 AFMC Small Manpower and Organization Award for Professional Excellence, and garnered two individual awards in the field category. Individual award recipients include management analysts Lucy Almaguer (GS-12 and higher) and Lucy Mehlen (GS-11 and lower)

"This is the first time our office has won the award," said Almaguer, who in 1988 won an individual MAJCOM award when she was selected as Aeronautical Systems Command's outstanding junior logistician.

The team award recognizes the contributions of the eight-member 311th HSW MO headed by Larry Brendle. "Our primary



Almaguer

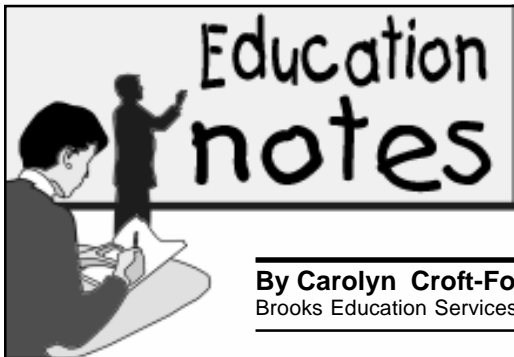
Mehlen

Brendle nominated Almaguer and Mehlen on the strength of their significant contributions to the organization and the Air Force mission. "Lucy Almaguer is the hub of the wheel in the manpower of-

fice, responsible for managing all changes that are reflected on the unit manning document totaling over 2,700 authorizations," Brendle said.

He said her meticulously accurate and timely work has had an enormous impact on military and civilian personnel actions at Brooks, and has been particularly beneficial to the Brooks City Base Project Office.

Brendle selected Mehlen as an individual award candidate for her work in managing the Brooks Innovative Development through Employee Awareness Program that contributed suggestions that saved the Air Force \$211,915 last year. Mehlen's primary customer as a management analyst is the 311th Air Base Group.



By Carolyn Croft-Foster
Brooks Education Services Office

ASCP/POC-ERP Scholarships

Airman Scholarship and Commissioning Program and Professional Officer Corps-Early Release Program are accepting applications for ROTC scholarships until March 15. Airmen interested in attending school full time and earning an Air Force commission should visit education services to learn about application requirements.

Call 536-3617 for an appointment.

FLEX 2 on-base registration

Alamo Community College District will provide on-base classes for Flex 2 (March 19-May 13). Students may register on any Tuesday or Thursday with the ACCD representative.

To schedule an appointment, call 536-3617.

The courses offered include: management, speech, history 2, state government, world religions, and literature. These courses are open to active duty, reservists, ANG, retirees, spouses and family members. All courses are applicable to the Community College of the Air Force degree.

Visit education services in Bldg. 570-C for more information.

Officer Training School

Enlisted members who have completed a bachelors degree or are within 270 days of completion are eligible to apply to OTS. The next deadline for applications is March 20.

Call 536-3617 to schedule an appointment.

University reps visit Brooks

The University of Texas at San Antonio, Southwest Texas State University, Park University, Texas A&M-Kingsville, St. Mary's University, Webster University, Our Lady of the Lake and the University of Incarnate Word send representatives to Brooks on a regular basis.

Any member of the Brooks community may schedule an appointment with these representatives by calling 536-3617. Students unsure of which program to begin can visit with the Air Force guidance counselor by calling 536-3617.

Our Lady of the Lake University

Our Lady of the Lake University Weekend College registration for Trimester III (April 28-July 15) begins Saturday. Representatives will be in the education center, Bldg. 570B, from 9-11 a.m. March 22.

For more information or to schedule an appointment, call 431-3995 or go to the website at www.ollusa.edu/~wec/sawec.

NEWS briefs

Technology Expo

The Spring Information Technology Exposition is March 13 in the Brooks Club. Exhibits will be open from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. There is no fee to enter.

More than 20 exhibitors will be hand to demonstrate computer hardware, software and IT services. A light buffet will be served.

Brooks tax center opens

The Brooks tax center is in operation through April 12. It is located in Bldg. 130, Room 149A. Hours are 8-11 a.m. and noon-3 p.m. Monday-Wednesday and 1-6 p.m. Thursday.

The volunteer tax assistance representatives offer free electronic filing of tax returns (by appointment only), state and federal tax forms and answers to basic income tax questions. These services are available for all active duty and retired military and their family members.

Call 536-2775 for more information.

Children's dental screenings

The Lackland Air Force Base Pediatric Dental Department provides free drop-in dental screenings for all eligible military medical beneficiaries.

Children 14 years old or younger are seen from 8-11 a.m. the second Wednesday of each month. Appointments are not necessary. The screenings include a dental exam with treatment recommendations.

Upcoming dates for this service are March 28, April 11, May 9, June 13 and July 11 in Arnold Hall, Bldg. 5506. Both locations are on Lackland AFB.

Call Col. (Dr.) Jeff Mabry or Airman 1st Class Marnie Thetford at 292-3327 or 292-3342 for more information.

Hangar 9 Toastmasters

The Hangar 9 Toastmasters Club meets from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. every Tuesday in the base chapel annex.

Call Richard Young at 536-4464 or Dario Beniquez at 536-4492 for more information.

Military Comptrollers luncheon

The American Society of Military Comptroller's March luncheon, hosted by the 311th Human Systems Wing, is March 21 in the Brooks Club.

A social will begin at 11 a.m. and lunch will be served at 11:30 a.m. Guest speaker is Lou Lendman, Budget, Management Analysis and Performance Assessment Director, City of San Antonio.

Lunch selections are: chef salad, hot rolls, coffee and tea for \$7 (blue selection) and Chicken Monterrey with potatoes au gratin and chopped buttered broccoli, rolls, coffee and tea for \$8 (red selection).

For tickets, call Teresa Vega, 536-5742, or email teresa.vega@brooks.af.mil by close of business March 15.

National Women's History Month

March is National Women's History Month and several events are scheduled to commemorate the celebration. These events are hosted by the Black Employment Program Committee, Chapter No. 123, Federally Employed Women; the Disabled Employment Program; Federal Women's Program Committee; and the Hispanic Employment Program Committee.

Scheduled events include:

March 15 — 11 a.m.-1 p.m., "Women's Health Issues" — a brown bag luncheon in the 311th HSW conference room, Bldg. 150. Guest speaker is Maj. (Dr.) Jill Feig.

March 20 — 11 a.m.-1 p.m., "Women and Finances" — a brown bag luncheon in the family support center, Bldg. 538. Guest speaker is LaWanda Hawkins.

March 30 — 11 a.m.-1 p.m., in the Brooks Club, "Brooks City Base Project 2001 Update" — Dr. Brendan Godfrey, 311th HSW Deputy Director, will speak — also "Civilian Personnel Update" — guest speaker will be Brenda McCain.

RSVP for this event only to either Iris Seals at 536-3285, Betty West at 536-5121 or Neda Jasper at 536-5440.



Retiree Activities Office

The Brooks RAO serves the needs of retired enlisted and officers members, as well as active duty members preparing for retirement.

The office, located in Bldg. 570B, Room 13B, is open from 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Tuesday-Thursday.

Call 536-6418 for more information.

Hap Arnold education grant

The Air Force Aid Society awarded more than \$7.5 million in education grants during 2000 to 5,000 college students. But some Air Force families still feel they won't qualify for the grant program. But that's just not so, according to Society officials.

The Society has tailored the program to adjust need measurements based on reasonable standards that fit most Air Force families.

Call the AFAS at 536-2444 to get an application for these \$1,500 college grants.

Yard Sale day in housing

Great bargains can be found during the Brooks Housing Yard Sale Day from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday in the base housing area.



Military Family Appreciation Nights

General Mills is saying thank you to the military in San Antonio April 10, June 5 and July 31. The company has purchased reserved seat tickets to see the S.A. Missions baseball team and will distribute them to military and their families assigned to San Antonio military installations.

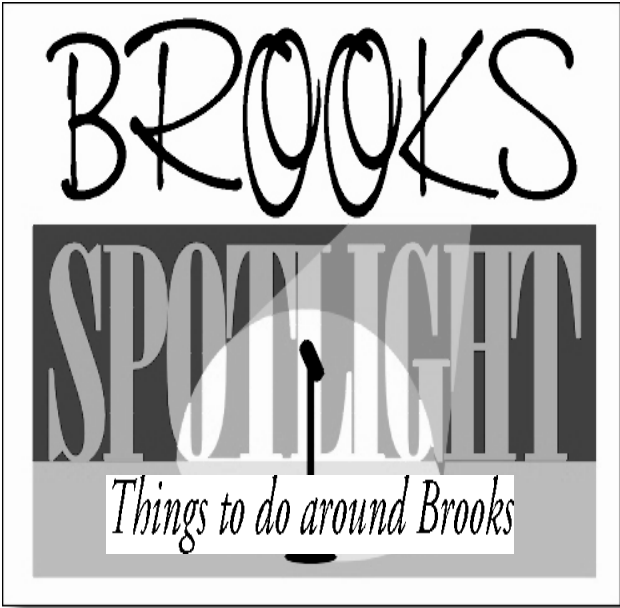
Ticket distribution is made possible by a commercial sponsorship agreement between General Mills, Inc., the Air Education and Training Command Directorate of Services and Brooks Services Division..

People can begin collecting Box Tops for Education from General Mills products. Services will conduct a prize drawing in conjunction with Military Family Appreciation Nights. Registration for the prizes will be done by printing your name, address and phone number on the back of a Box Tops for Education portion of a General Mills product. Registration boxes will be located at various locations on Brooks. The box tops will be used to benefit schools.

For more information on the Box Tops for Education visit the General Mills worldwide website: www.boxtops4education.com.

In conjunction with each Military Family Appreciation Night a mini-vacation to Corpus Christi will be awarded. The prize is provided by commercial sponsorship from Corpus Christi vacation destination; Villa del Sol Resort, the Radisson Hotel Corpus Christ Beach, Quality Inn and Suites Corpus Christ, Texas State Aquarium and the USS Lexington Museum.

Entry into the contest may also be done by preparing a color drawing of a Box Tops for Education. No mechanical or photocopies will be allowed. Only the Box Tops for Education part of General Mills products will be accepted as valid entry forms in the prize drawing. Contact the Services marketing office at 536-8057/5475/2407 for more information.



By Jan McMahon
Community newswriter

Annual base picnic

Organizations, it's time to start plans for the annual base "Picnic Bash." The picnic will be from 11 a.m.-7 p.m. June 8 at the base picnic grounds. The first meeting will be at 8:30 a.m. Wednesday in Sidney's, Bldg. 714.

Organizations will make selections on foods to be served that morning. Organizations should have at least three choices. 2001 has been designated the "Year of the Family," so the theme for this year's event will be "Families-Present and Past." Organizations should select a family and decorate booths and dress accordingly.

Several suggestions are:

The Flintstones, Partridge Family, The Adams Family, The Waltons, Donald Duck, The Munsters, Cartwrights, Simpsons, Huxtables, Eight is Enough, Osmond Family, Jackson Five, Fresh Prince of Bel Air and The Ingles — or select a favorite family of your own. First and second place will be awarded to the most original/authentic family.

The FrameWorks

Bldg. 1154, 536-2120

Anyone selecting a green mat or molding during March will receive a 15-25 percent discount. It's as simple as drawing a shamrock and discovering the instant savings.

This offer is valid March 1-30.

Brooks Club

Bldg. 204, 536-3782

Luck of the Irish Super Social

Club members will receive a shamrock each time they purchase lunch or dinner at the Brooks Club or Sidney's between March 9-16.

Place your name, phone number and the last four of your club card number on the shamrock. Drop each shamrock in the entry box located in each club. Win a Super Spurs Package: four Spurs tickets, four Alamodome Sports Club tickets and one parking pass.

The lucky winner will be drawn at the Luck of the Irish Super Social March 16 in the Brooks Club. The winner must be a valid club member and be present at the drawing.

The winner must present their club card to be verified at that time.

Call the staff for more details on this program.

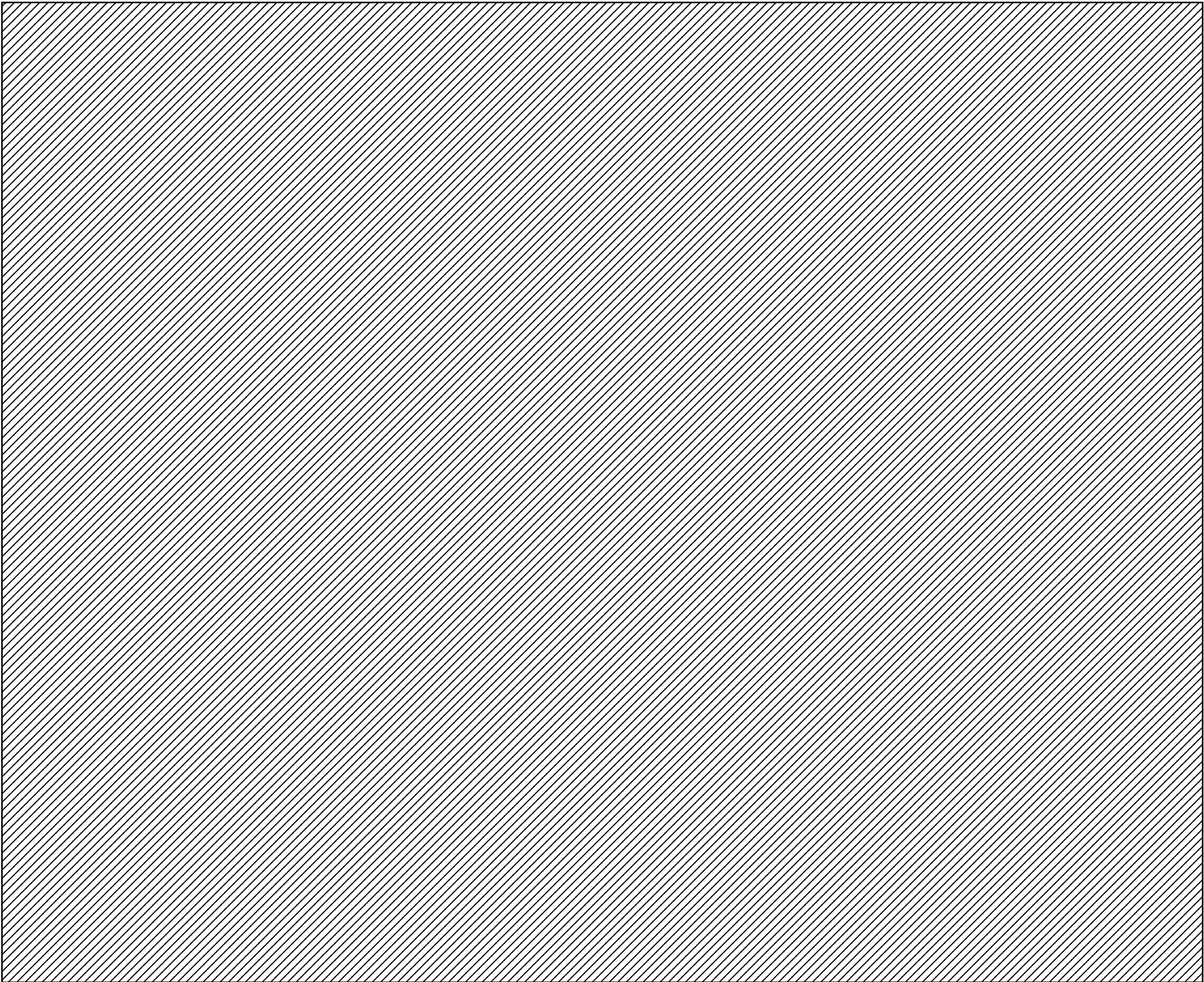
All you can eat chicken

Take advantage of the "All-You-Can-Eat Chicken Buffets" every Thursday at the Brooks Club. \$6.95 will purchase the entrée plus salad, veggies and rolls from 5-8 p.m.

'Adult membership night'

"Adult Membership Night" is March 23 in the Brooks Club. Club card holders are free and guests are \$5 each. There will be dinner, contests and prizes offered.

Contact the staff for more details on this event.





Good news for students: Brooks added to VIA routes

People who live, work, and study at Brooks can look forward to better bus services very soon.

Beginning Monday, services on VIA Metropolitan Transit bus routes 4 and 512 will be expanded to include Brooks. This additional service will provide direct transit connections to downtown and other parts of the city for the base's population of more than 5,000.

The new extensions of the VIA routes will enter Brooks off Military Drive near Goliad Road. The routes will travel down North Road to 11th Street, making stops at five different locations within the base.

The addition of Brooks on routes 34 and 521 comes at the request of the command staff at the base.

"We welcome the VIA bus service onto Brooks Air Force Base," said Col. Terry Nelsen 311th Air Base Group commander. "The folks at Brooks will now be able to travel throughout the city and visit attractions such as the Riverwalk. This is especially important to our student population, many of whom do not have cars."

Students at Brooks who are earning college credit are eligible to purchase VIA's Semester Pass. The five-month Semester Pass is available for \$15, and it provides

unlimited rides on all buses and streetcars for the fall or spring semesters (August - December or January - May). Students can purchase the Semester Pass at any VIA Information Center, including the Downtown Information Center at 260 E. Houston Street.

VIA's monthly Big Pass is also available to Brooks riders for \$15. The Big Pass is sold at several retail outlets across the area, including the City of San Antonio's Community Link Service Center in McCreless Mall.

The Brooks extensions of VIA routes 34 and 521 go into effect Monday in conjunction with other bus service revisions. For more information on these service changes call 362-2020.

A group of U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine students board a brand new VIA bus recently to get a firsthand look at their new mode of transportation. VIA is expanding its service to include Brooks beginning Monday. (Photo by Tech. Sgt. Pedro Ybanez)



Some of the 212 Brooks people who attended the National Prayer Luncheon Feb. 22 in the Brooks Club listen to Air Force Materiel Command Chaplain (Col.) Charles Baldwin speak on "Prayer is Better

than Email." Thirty-two individuals representing 23 organizations were responsible for planning and putting on this annual event. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Sabrina Johnson)

212 attend National Prayer Luncheon

By Chap. (Capt.) Stephen Allen
311th Human Systems Wing/HC

Two hundred and twelve Brooks faithful turned out Feb. 22 for the annual National Prayer Luncheon in the Brooks Club. Special guest speaker was Air Force Materiel Command Chaplain (Col.) Charles Baldwin. He and his wife were guests of the Brooks Chapel. The Command Chaplain spoke on "Prayer is Better than Email."

Other dignitaries attending the luncheon were Brig. Gen. Lloyd Dodd, 311th Human Systems Wing commander and his wife, Kate; Dr. Brendan Godfrey, 311th HSW Executive Director; Col. R.J. Ruff, 311th HSW vice commander; and Chief Master Sgt. Darlin Evans, 311th HSW Command Chief Master Sergeant.

The Responsive Reading was delivered by Lt. Col. Susan Loveland and Mel

Waldgeir presented the Blessing of the Meal. Scripture readings were given by 1st Lt. Nora Merritt and Master Sgt. Sylvia Goodwin. The benediction was delivered by Fr. James Beegan.

The tradition of a National Prayer breakfast goes back to 1942 when the Senate and the House of Representatives inaugurated Prayer Breakfast Groups.

In 1953, members of the Senate and House prayer groups established, with President Eisenhower, the first Presidential Prayer Breakfast.

Each year since, the breakfast has drawn the President, members of his Cabinet, the Supreme Court, Congress, the Diplomatic Corps, business leaders and members of the various armed forces of the United States have gathered to seek spiritual guidance for our government.



9-11:30 a.m., Bldg. 538, Monday — “How to Start Your Own Business”

Presented by the San Antonio Small Business Administration, this workshop will provide an assessment to determine if you possess the desire, motivation and perseverance to succeed as an entrepreneur.

Also included will be information on creating a business plan, financial portfolio, business network and 5-year growth plan.

Learn how your dream can become a reality with careful preparation and presentation in achieving a business loan.

11 a.m.-1 p.m., Bldg. 538, Tuesday — “Checking Account Management”

Learn how to manage a checking account, how to select a financial institution to meet your personal needs, ATM and debit cards, overdraft protection and preventing NSF checks, how to maintain and reconcile checking and savings account statements, and how to use separate family financial accounts for such situations as TDYs, remote tours and deployments.

8 a.m.-2 p.m. (retirees) and 8 a.m.-noon (separations), Bldg. 538, Wednesday — “Separation and Retirement Briefing”

Preparing to separate or retire? Need more information to make an informed decision? Then, you and your spouse should make plans to attend this briefing.

Various base agencies will discuss what services and benefits are and will be available to you and your family during this time of transition.

8 a.m.-noon, Bldg. 538, Thursday — “Balancing Work & Life (First Duty Station PFMP Orientation/Survival Tips for First Termers)”



Call 536-2444 for reservations or questions

Brooks Family Support Center activities

This is a mandatory class for E-4s and below whose first duty station is Brooks.

By starting off on the right track, one can avoid the common mistakes members frequently make. Learn basic money management skills and become acquainted with the many programs and services available to you.

10-11 a.m., Bldg. 538, March 12 — “Sponsor Training”

In accordance with AFI 36-3011, sponsor training is mandatory of all first-time sponsors and those who have not sponsored within the past year. However, others are more than welcome to attend.

Learn about tools and resources available for sponsors.

9-10:30 a.m., Bldg. 538, March 13 — “Job Fair Preparation Workshop”

If you are planning to attend the San Antonio Military Community Job Fair, Sept. 22, then you need to find out what to expect and what to bring.

Learn about major job fair errors, tips for an effective resume, dressing for success, the five minute interview, employer information, post job fair follow-up, etc.

9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Live Oak Civic Center, March 21 — “San Antonio Military Community Job Fair”

Employers will be recruiting for all types of jobs. Whether you are seeking employment now or gathering information for future career decisions, make this job fair a part of your transition/job search strategy.

Where else can you reach so many employers in a single event?

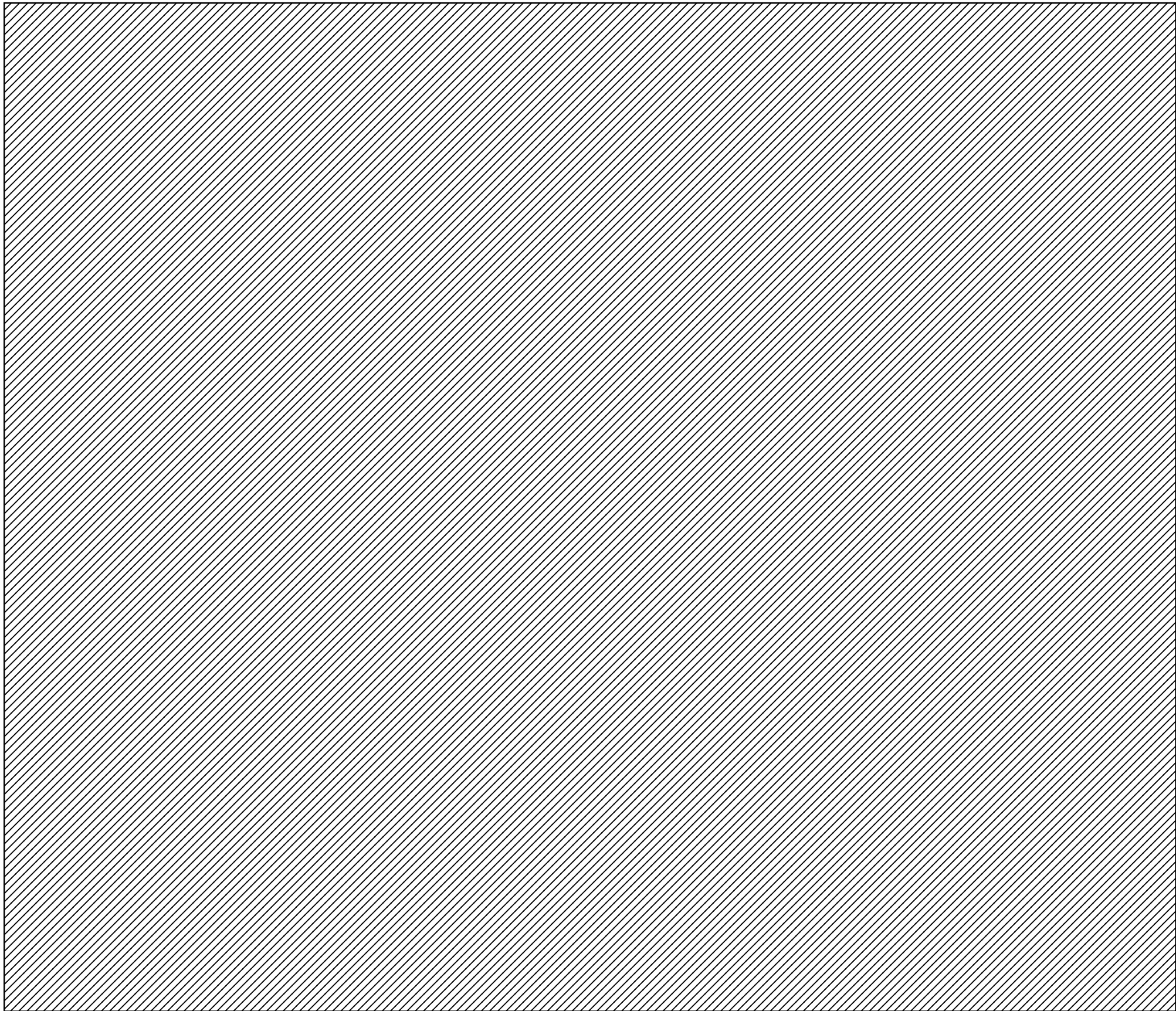
The Job Fair is open to all DoD military, active duty and retired, civilians and family members. A list of employers that is updated weekly is available at www.taonline.com.

8 a.m.-4 p.m., Bldg. 538, March 26-28 — “3-Day Transition Seminar”

Making the transition from the military to the civilian sector can be a big undertaking.

Brooks has been fortunate to have an additional 3-Day TAP (Department of Labor) seminar added to the schedule to better serve those active duty members who are separating and retiring.

Spouses of those separating/retiring are also encouraged to attend this comprehensive transition program.





Brooks Ambassadors bring Valentine's cheer to veterans

By Ed Shannon

311th Human Systems Wing Public Affairs
Comments? edwin.shannon@brooks.af.mil

They were on perhaps the most important mission in their military and civilian careers. And after they completed the mission, they reflected on how special it was to have served.

The vice commander of the 311th Human Systems Wing and Brooks' ambassadors joined Feb. 13 to deliver valentines to veterans at the Audie L. Murphy Memorial Veterans Hospital in San Antonio. The group's visit supported the National Salute to Hospitalized Veterans.

"We are here today to say 'thank you' for our veteran's service to our country," said Col. R.J. Ruff, wing vice commander. "This is what being in the Armed Forces is all about."

"It was the most memorable experience in my 14-year-career," said Tech. Sgt. Kenton Lee, one of four base ambassadors who participated in the event.

Lee visited a man who shared his experiences as a U.S. Army demolition specialist during Vietnam. The veteran had served one tour from 1966-67 and was "ready and willing" to return for another, but he had to remain stateside due to shrapnel injuries.

"As I shook his hand and patted him on the back, I told him that our present military would not be where we are today without him and his fellow comrades," Lee said. "The nonverbal sentiment conveyed by this proud veteran was more than words could explain."

1st Lt. Jessica Joyner described her most memorable encounter that day. She visited with a former four-year prisoner of war and his wife. The veteran was shot down over Japan, and he evaded capture for three days in the woods before being captured.

In the meantime, his wife had been told that her husband was considered a POW and could possibly even be dead. But she shared with Joyner that she always knew her husband was alive – she never

found interest in anyone else and always longed to be with him. Four years later, she received a phone call from the government and was told her husband was alive and going home.

"Their story was amazing, and their love for one another was so very evident – which was quite a blessing for me as you can imagine," Joyner said. "The chance to sit and talk with the veterans really brought home their contributions to our service."

Staff Sgt. Michael Ryan agreed.

"I found this morning's visit to be a great example of what any member of the Brooks community could do to show our veterans that they are



From left, Staff Sgt. Michael Ryan, 1st Lt. Jessica Joyner and Rita Fox, Brooks Ambassadors, wish Army Air Corps veteran J.R. Hamman, 82-years old, a former radio operator at Kelly Field, both a happy birthday and a happy Valentine's Day.

appreciated. I will remember what I saw in the eyes of those heroes we met this morning for a very long time."

One of the more moving visits was when the group delivered valentines to a Green Beret, according to Rita Fox.

This particular veteran received shrapnel in his shoulder while he served in Vietnam, she said. In 1978, doctors operated on his shoulder, and in the process, he contracted AIDS from a blood transfusion. He choked up as he shared his story.

Fox shared with her coworkers that "it felt so good to thank a vet. We should all do that more often," she said. "One veteran came up to us and thanked us for what we were doing and told us we had no idea how much they appreciated the gesture."

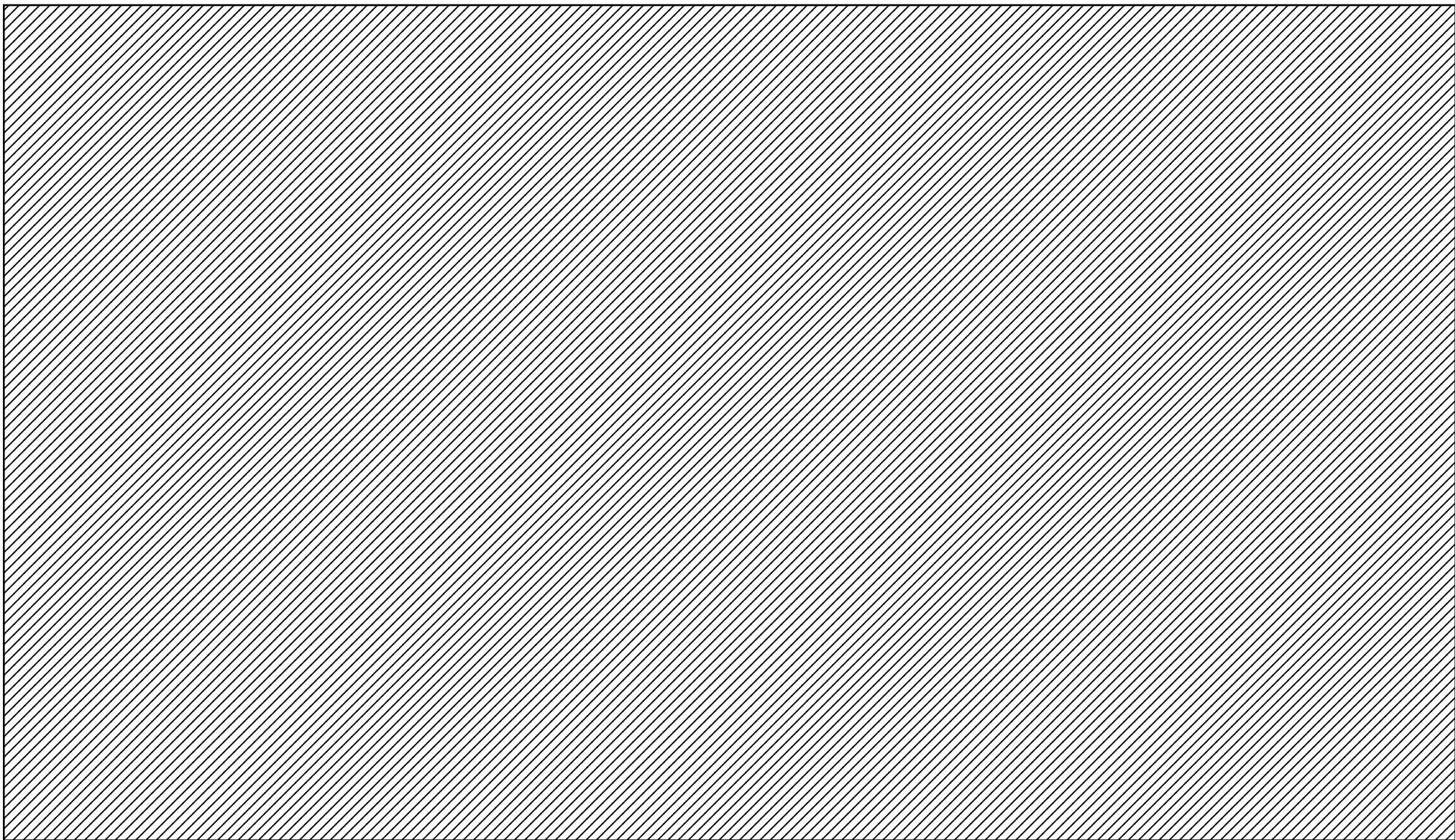
Lee compared each floor of the hospital to that of chapters of a book. Each floor contains a history of one war to another, one generation to the next.

"The most important chapter in today's lesson was 'Generations,'" he said. "We must carry on the vital task of recognizing and caring for our past and future veterans."

By supporting a successful National Salute to Hospitalized Veterans visit, the group from Brooks accomplished that most important mission.



From left, veteran Felix DeLaRosa and Brooks Ambassador Tech. Sgt. Kenton Lee show off one of the Valentine's Day cards the Ambassadors gave the veterans during a Feb. 13 visit to the Audie Murphy Veteran's Hospital. (Photo by Staff Sgt. John Jung)





'The mission continues' in new Aerospace Career Day format

By Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing

Comments? rudolph.purificato@brooks.af.mil

"The mission continues" is the theme for Brooks' annual Aerospace Career Day, being conducted for the first time over a two-day period, Wednesday and Thursday.

"We've expanded the event based on the overwhelming response we received last year from students and faculty," said Lt. Col. Jack Jeter, Aerospace Career Day project officer.

Since its inception three years ago, Aerospace Career Day has become a forum for showcasing Air Force mission-specific science and technology through an interactive approach for high school students considering future careers in science, math, engineering and medicine.

Approximately 1,500 students, primarily from Bexar County public and private schools, will participate in daylong activities they preselected based on their interests and classroom focus. The more than 30 classes offered range the scientific

spectrum from astronomy and laser physics to spatial disorientation and aerospace medicine.

"Our students are considering professional careers in engineering and medicine and are interested in what the Air Force is doing that fits in with where they want to go," said Bob Jennings, Gifted and Talented coordinator for Holmes High School's Business Careers. He said Aerospace Career Day also provides participating junior and seniors an opportunity to forge mentoring partnerships with Brooks professionals.

Incarnate Word High School science department chairwoman Norma Copeland said her advanced biology and chemistry students plan to sample from the diverse menu of venues being offered. "They're interested in forensic toxicology and the SWAT team," she said.

Presentations also feature NASA astronauts including San Antonian John Blaha, Air Force Space Command's Col. Tom Bradley, 311th Human Systems Program Office director Col. Dartanian "Doc" Warr and U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine's Capt. Steve Donaldson, in charge of the chemistry magic show.



AEROSPACE CAREER DAY 2001 *Brooks Air Force Base, March 7-8*



Welcome to Aerospace Career Day 2001



Dodd

On behalf of the men and women of Brooks Air Force Base, I want to welcome you to Aerospace Career Day 2001. This is the third year that Aerospace Career Day is totally dedicated to informing students about the various Aerospace Medicine programs at Brooks. This educational field trip is a wonderful way for you to see firsthand the exciting work that goes on here. Thanks to your school's tremendous support during the past two years, we have expanded this year's event to give you the opportunity to experience more classes and hear more speakers.

Our mission at Brooks is to produce products to enhance human performance in combat situations and to assess and manage health, safety and environmental risks for the U.S. Air Force and the Department of Defense. We do this, for example, by designing better flight suits, training flight doctors and nurses, and maintaining bioenvironmental assessment teams that can deploy to areas to monitor potential health hazards. Our Aerospace Career Day team has put together an outstanding program highlighting the science, math, technology, and health-related aspects of our day-to-day work and showing how these efforts directly support our mission.

Thank you for your enthusiastic participation in this educational event. I am sure you will be impressed with the dedicated, high quality people who work at Brooks. I am confident you will take with you a greater understanding of how the Air Force uses science and technology to support our warfighters.

Brig. Gen. Lloyd Dodd
311th Human Systems Wing commander



Opportunities have never been better in the U.S. Air Force.

Botany

Discussion will cover the importance of plants, including food, oxygen, CO₂ sinks, air filters, shade and hydrology cycle. Various fields within botany such as ecology, taxonomy and horticulture will also be discussed.

We will also look at how botany relates to everyday life in pharmaceuticals, food, and fiber and the potential future of botanists in space research and colonization.

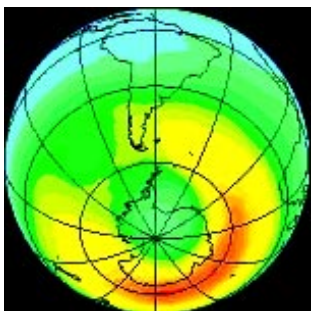
Radioactive Material Instrumentation

Determination of low levels of activity concentrations due to the presence of radioactive compounds in the middle of environmental and medical samples such as waters, soils, vegetation, urine, and feces require the use of very sensitive instrumentation for the detection of radioactive contaminants.

A tour of the Radioanalytical Laboratory of Brooks will be performed to show the different kind of instruments needed for the detection of small contaminants in biological and environmental samples. Different sources of contamination coming from medical facilities, nuclear power reactors, and nuclear weapon accidents will be considered together to assess the potential risk to human beings involved in the use of radioactive materials.

Light, Lasers and Holographs

Witness demonstrations of the principles of light and some of the fun stuff that you can do with it. Common materials will be used, along with high-tech holograms and lasers. Hear explanations of how lasers and holograms work.



This earth looks fine, but the Global Health Issue class will discuss our planet's fight against disease.

Global Health Issues

This presentation will focus on current and emerging health threats around the world — all of which could seriously affect health in the USA, given Americans ever-growing international interactions and the ease with which we travel from country to country.

Topics will include infectious diseases such as Mad Cow Disease, Ebola virus, and malaria, and other health concerns that may be related to as yet unidentified environmental exposures such as Lou Gehrig's Disease, depleted uranium and exposure to electromagnetic fields in power lines, cell phones, and radar.

Forensic Toxicology

With the increase of public awareness brought on by the War of Drugs and a number of well-publicized national court cases, the discipline of Forensic Toxicology assumes a great deal of importance.

We will look at the origin, history, and practice of the field along with some practical applications in the areas of Drugs of Abuse analysis and other legal concerns.

Readiness Emergency Planning

This multifaceted career offers a plethora of exciting options including filling the educational

Classes, demonstrations during **AEROSPACE** Career Day 2001

needs of students as instructors and providing expert advice to base leadership for and during natural and major accidents/incidents.

Students will have an opportunity to develop lesson plans, checklists and base instructions to the base populace.

Environmental Toxicology

This class offers an overview of the origin of toxicology, study areas, and major concepts. We will discuss dose and response relationship and how it relates to cancer; review an example of chemical poisoning; and close with a list of universities that offer toxicology programs in Texas.

Ecological Risk Assessment

The Air Force evaluates potential ecological impacts from historical and ongoing chemical emissions on the ecology. Students interested in chemistry or biology may be interested in getting more involved in these evaluations, called ecological risk assessments.



The Threatened and Endangered Species class will talk about animals like the grey wolf and the Sonoran Pronghorn. (Photo by Stephen Schutz)

Laser Physics, Eye Protection

We will discuss the basic characteristics of laser light, how laser light is different from normal light, and how those differences affect how we protect the eye. Class also will learn about challenges arising from the use of laser eye protection.

Virology

Every year we're told to get a flu shot. Find out how Brooks impacts the vaccine composition decisions made by the World Health Organization and why the influenza virus is important enough to rate a new vaccine every year.

You will also find out how to answer those who say "I always get the flu from the shot."



Air Force archaeologists strive to balance resources on Air Force lands.

Archeology

Archeology is the study of past human activity. It tells us how we got where we are today, but it does it differently than history.

Archeology relies on "things" and patterns among "things," rather than on written documents.

It is solving complex puzzles that include many kinds of evidence, including past environments, human migrations, trading practices and trading partners, wars, farming, religion, myths, and languages.

Archeology is part of Anthropology. It is a wide field, with many opportunities for good jobs that range from university professors to museum curators to travelling field workers.

Government archaeologists, including those who work for the Air Force, deal with protecting the past and interpreting it so modern and future people can understand and enjoy its many lessons and fascinating details.

Air Force archaeologists strive to balance protecting and interpreting archaeological resources on Air Force lands with maintaining the highest standards of military training and capabilities within the best air force in the world.

Bioremediation

The mission of the Technology Transfer Division is to evaluate innovative environmental cleanup technologies for application at Air Force facilities. Our goal is to demonstrate cost avoidance and savings in support of site closure, maintenance, and industrial activities through the use of new and innovative solutions.

The Division has transferred many innovative technologies and solutions to customers at over 100 military installations worldwide, with savings in excess of a quarter-billion dollars.

Discussion will include examples of innovative environmental technologies being employed at Air Force bases, along with the cost savings from their application.

Discussion will also include the various occupational skills and educational requirements necessary for providing this technical expertise.



During the bioremediation class, discussion will include examples of innovative environmental technologies being used at Air Force bases.

Urban/Community Planning

Cities (and Air Force bases) must plan for their future. How should it change and grow? When we plan for our future we look at the environment to make sure we can thrive in a place with clean water, air and city streets.

This class will present a look at how public facilities, community and economic development, and urban design makes our city and base a very special place.

Astronomy (2-class presentation)

Explore the opportunities that Astronomy offers with the lead flight director of the Challenger Learning Center of San Antonio. Jody Harkrider will also discuss spectroscopy, the study of light, through a hands-on lab event.



Experts will discuss the hazards associated with parachuting. Students learn about equipment and proper body position and observe parachute landings and swing landing training.

Disease Prevention/Health Promotion

"Staying Healthy" — Learn the importance of nutrition, physical activity, stress management, and other lifestyle behaviors and how they can help you prevent heart disease and cancer.

The latest recommendations on exercise and nutrition will be given and students will be given the opportunity to make calculations to estimate their disease risk.

Epidemiology

Attendees will glimpse the fascinating world of public health and an overview of the science of epidemiology, including basic definitions for epidemiology, outbreak, epidemic, pandemic, and learn how Lord Snow broke the code on cholera in London.

The class will conclude with some examples of successful contemporary epidemiologic investigations such as influenza, suicides and tuberculosis.

Emergency Services Team (Military SWAT)

This demonstration will encompass an actual vehicle assault performed by the Military's Emergency Services Team. Various equipment items will be on display including ballistic shields, radios, kevlar helmets, M9 Berettas, and breaching tools.



Experience an actual vehicle assault performed by the military's emergency services team.

AF Geographic Information Systems

Students will learn about Geographic Information Systems and how they relate to the mission of the Air Force and receive a variety of project demonstrations.

Physiology of Acceleration (2-class presentation)

Students will be briefed on the physics and physiological effects of high G maneuvering, to include G-induced loss of consciousness (G-LOC). They will then tour our centrifuge facility and view a tape containing in-flight G-LOC episodes, and a description of the training program established to prevent them.

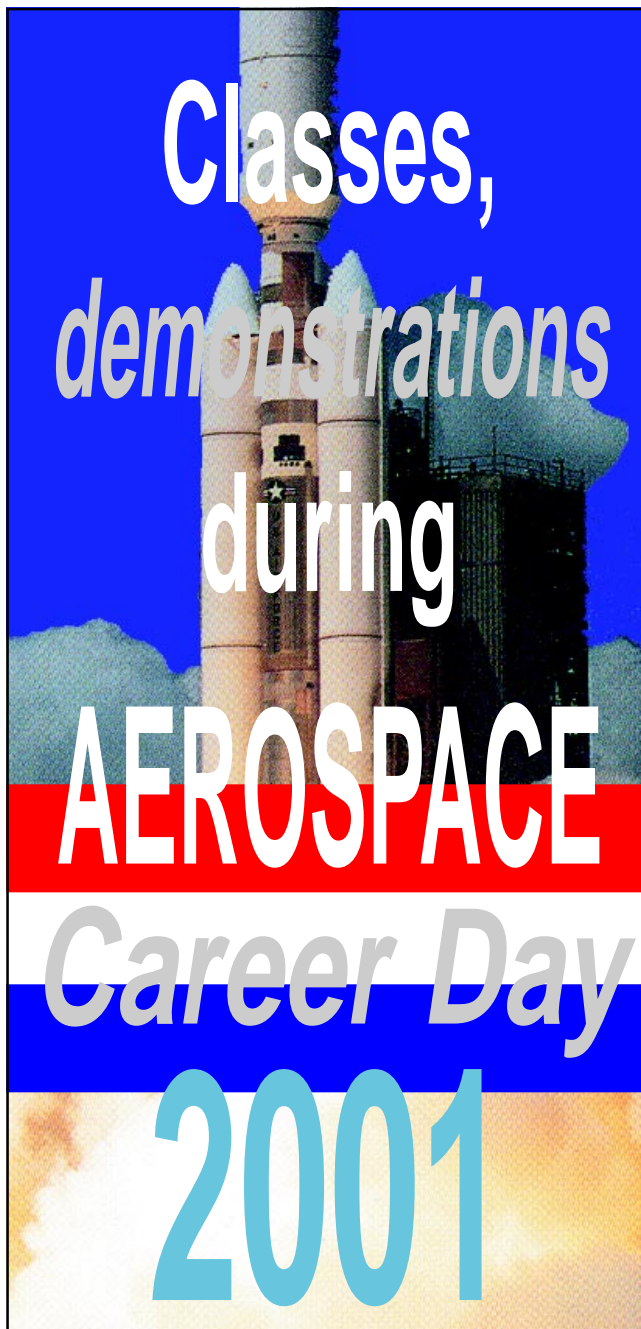
Air Force Radiation Assessment Team

A demonstration of the Air Force's premier Radiation Assessment Team. Tent and equipment displays will highlight this presentation.

Individual members will detail the mission of the AFRAT and detail what studies are beneficial if someone wanted to pursue a career in Health Physics.

Expeditionary Medical Support

Take a walking tour of a partial or completely deployed EMEDS basic hospital facility at the EMEDS field site. Demonstrations and discussions will include several notable pieces of medical equipment in place on an interactive mannequin.



The presentation will include a short warehouse tour demonstrating equipment palletization prior to worldwide deployment.

Aircrew Laser Eye Protection

This presentation will focus on the advancements the USAF is making in laser eye protection for aircrew. With the upgrade in technology in the 21st century, we have to take precautions to protect our men and women in the operational field.

Our goal in ALEP is to design a new form of eyewear to protect our aircrew members from lasers that are employed in the operational field. These lasers can do everything from cause dizziness and blurred spots to permanent damage to the eyes. Without this new form of eyewear, the missions could be severely impacted.

Nuclear, Biological, Chemical Defense Systems

Students will be briefed on the hazards of NBC in the field and how the Human Systems Wing develops, deploys, and sustains NBC defense systems for DoD Joint users.

Presentation will include demonstrations of individuals and collective protection, detectors, decontamination, medical and modeling and simulation systems to protect the joint warfighter from radiological, biological and chemical threats.

Life Sciences Artifact Section

Take a walking tour through the Life Sciences Artifact Section. LSAS operates as an adjunct department of the Life Sciences Equipment Laboratory in the 311th Human System Wing at Brooks.

The specialized mission of the Life Sciences Artifact Section is to provide scientific support to various organizations within the Department of Defense, that are involved in obtaining the fullest possible accounting of American personnel who remain missing from various military conflicts dating back to WW II. Such organizations include the Defense Prisoner of War/Missing Personnel Office, the Joint Task Force-Full Accounting, and the US Army Central Identification Laboratory in Hawaii.

Advanced Spatial Disorientation Demonstration/Altitude Chamber

Students will tour the most realistic flight simulator in the world that was designed to train pilots how to recognize and correct for spatial disorientation during flight and then tour the altitude chamber that was designed to simulate high altitude and its effect on the human body, such as trapped gas and hypoxia, as well as provide a means of training aircrew how to use various pieces of aircraft oxygen equipment.

Students will ride the Barany Chair, a 1940s vintage device that was used in the early years of aviation to increase pilot awareness of the dangers of spatial disorientation.



Students can take a ride in the Barany chair during the Advanced Spatial Disorientation class.

What is HBOT?

No, it's not Home Box Office time. It actually means Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy, where oxygen is given to people in a "dive" chamber, and the pressure is more than twice that at the earth's surface. This is an opportunity to learn about HBO and its uses.



What is HBOT?

Parachuting

Experts will discuss the hazards associated with parachuting.

Students will learn about the equipment and proper body position and observe parachute landing falls and swing landing training.

Today's Air Force Opportunities

Examine day to day life in the Air Force and discuss the benefits and opportunities of serving in today's high tech environment.

Discover the details of a great pay and benefits package, along with unique opportunities to work on some of the most advanced technologies in existence.



No mad scientists here! But students attending Brooks Aerospace Career Day 2001 will meet some of the finest scientific and medical professionals in the country, as well as see examples of some of the fascinating and important work done at Brooks in scientific research. (Courtesy photo)



Dr. John Blaha

Astronaut

NASA astronaut John Blaha will speak on his experiences in space as he narrates a 45-minute video.

Blaha was a U.S. Air Force fighter pilot and test pilot before being selected as an astronaut. Selected as an astronaut in May 1980, Blaha logged 161 days in space on five space missions.

His first space mission was in 1989 when STS-29 Discovery launched from Kennedy Space Center, Fla., on March 13 and landed at Edwards Air Force Base, Calif., on March 18. During this very successful mission, Blaha served as pilot, and the five-man crew aboard Shuttle Discovery deployed the East Tracking and Data Relay Satellite and performed eight scientific/medical experiments.

STS-33 Discovery launched at night on Nov. 22, 1989, and this five-day mission carried Department of Defense payloads and other secondary payloads. Blaha served as pilot on this mission. After 79 orbits of the Earth, this highly successful mission concluded with a hard surface landing on Runway 4 at Edwards AFB, Calif., on Nov. 27, 1989.

Blaha served as Spacecraft Commander on STS-43 Atlantis, which launched from the Kennedy Space Center carrying a five-person crew. During the nine-day mission, the crew deployed the West Tracking and Data Relay Satellite, and conducted 32 physical, material, and life science experiments that supported the development of the Extended Duration Orbiter and Space Station. After 142 orbits of the Earth, the mission concluded with a landing on Runway 15 at the Kennedy Space Center on Aug. 11, 1991.

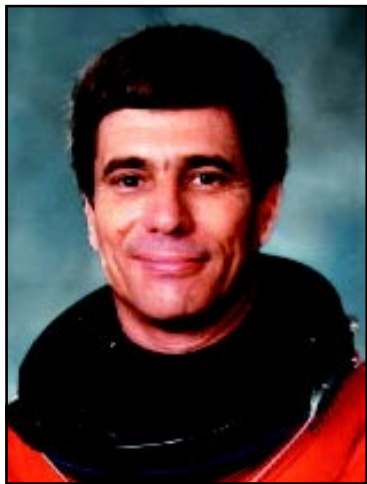
As a Spacecraft Commander once again on STS-58 Columbia, Blaha was part of a seven-person crew which launched from Kennedy Space Center on Oct. 18, 1993. This record duration 14-day life science research mission has been recognized by NASA management as the most successful and efficient Spacelab flight that NASA has flown. The crew performed neurovestibular, cardiovascular, cardiopulmonary, metabolic, and musculoskeletal medical experiments on themselves and 48 rats, expanding our knowledge of human and animal physiology both on Earth and in space flight.

Blaha began Russian language training in August 1994 at the Defense Language Institute in Monterey, Calif., and commenced an intensive training program at the Cosmonaut Training Center, Star City, Russia in January 1995. He launched on STS-79 on Sept. 16, 1996. After docking he transferred to the Mir Space Station. Assigned as a Board Engineer 2, he spent the following four months with the Mir 22 Cosmonaut crew conducting material science, fluid science, and life science research. Blaha returned to Earth aboard STS-81 on Jan. 22, 1997.

Col. Tom Bradley

Directorate of Plans and Programs, Internal Affairs Division, Air Force Space Command

Col. Tom Bradley, Internal Affairs Division chief for Air Force Space Command's Directorate of Plans and Programs, will present the importance of military space missions to the United States. He will explain how people in all walks of life in the United States rely on satellites for communication,



Astronaut Dr. John Blaha will speak on his unique experiences in space and narrate a 45-minute video.



navigation, weather prediction, climate information, and other valuable uses. Bradley will also describe the kinds of aerospace careers that high schoolers can expect to fulfill in the U.S. Air Force.

Bradley, who is responsible for the formulation and execution of Space Command's international policies, arms control functions, and foreign disclosure functions, entered the Air Force in 1974 as a graduate of the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps program at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville. He performed flying duties as an instructor weapon systems officer in the F-4 aircraft and has extensive staff experience in Pacific war plans, regional planning, war gaming, security assistance, and international affairs.

Air Force Space Command, headquartered at Peterson Air Force Base, Colo., defends America through its space and intercontinental ballistic missile operations - vital force elements in projecting global reach and global power. Approximately 33,600 people, including 22,600 active duty military and civilians, and 11,000 contractor employees combine to perform command missions.

Col. Dartanian "Doc" Warr

Aircraft Systems Director

Col. Dartanian "Doc" Warr, the Human Systems Program Office director at Brooks, will share with students the important role his organization plays in supporting warfighters.

Warr's 2,000-person industry team develops, deploys and sustains life support, crew escape, chemical, nuclear and biological defense and aeromedical equipment. The program office's primary mission is to protect the United States and allied warfighters.



Col. Doc Warr will share with students the important role the 311th Human Systems Program Office plays in supporting warfighters.

Warr received an academic scholarship to Culver Military Academy, Ind., and graduated in 1976 as the battalion commander. He is a 1980 graduate of the U.S. Air Force Academy, where he was a cadet group commander.

As an Air Force officer, his responsibilities have included redesigning the air refueling station on the KC-10 aircraft; updating the F-16 training system; developing chemical and biological protective gear for the warfighter; alleviating electrical hazards on the Peacekeeper Intercontinental Ballistic Missile; designing the crew station for the midjet man Small ICBM; and program manager of the Air Force's latest space satellite development program named Space Based Infrared.

Warr also served as the chief, Senior Officer Management, AFMC's Colonel's Group. He is an honor graduate of the Air Command and Staff College, Ala., and a distinguished graduate of the National Defense University, Washington, D.C.

In 1992 Warr was selected as a White House Fellow serving as a special assistant to Department of Housing and Urban Development Secretaries Jack Kemp and Henry Cisneros.

He helped lead the Department of Housing and Urban Development's Hurricane Andrew cleanup effort. His team was able to house 10,000 families in the initial months of this disaster.

In 1997, the National Junior Chamber of Commerce selected Warr as one of its 10 Outstanding Young Americans.

Capt. Keith Donaldson
Chemistry Magic Show

Capt. Keith Donaldson, associate director of the flight nurse course at the U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine, will present a



Capt. Keith Donaldson will present the popular Chemistry Magic Show

chemistry magic show consisting of various types of chemical reactions - including oxidations and reductions, single and double displacements, acid-base reactions, and clock reactions.

Students will experience a very visual presentation by Donaldson, who will incorporate exploding balloons, fires, liquid nitrogen, color changes, and smoke in the program.

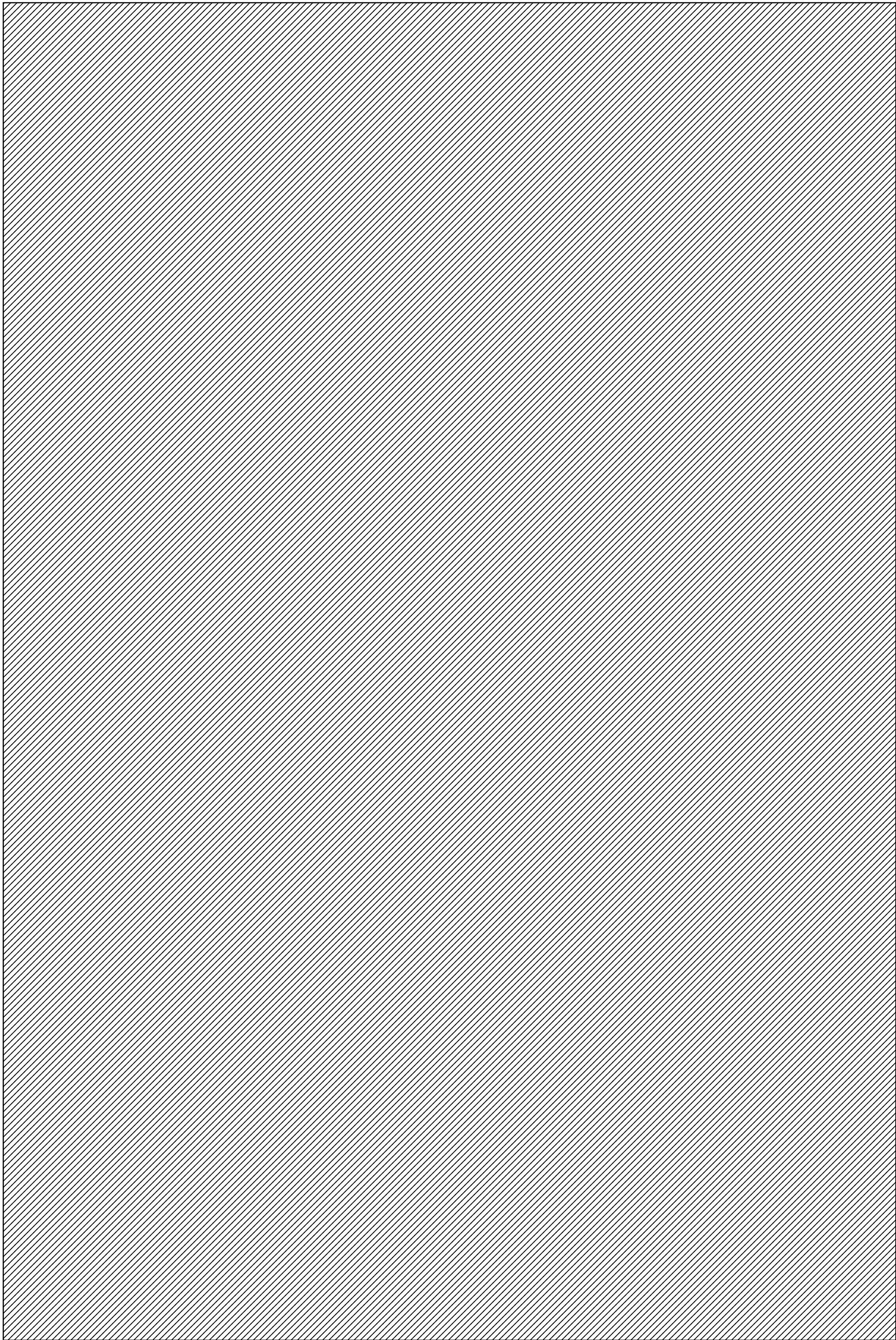
The purpose of all these reactions is to demonstrate chemical principles such as exothermic and endothermic reactions, and chemical kinetics. Donaldson learned these demonstrations from Dr. Eric Holwitt, who taught chemistry and biochemistry at the U.S. Air Force Academy from 1980-1984.

This show has been presented around San Antonio in at least 50 schools and for groups including the Young Astronauts, Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts and Girl Scouts.

Donaldson, who holds a master's degree in Nursing Administration and a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing, has traveled around the world during his military career. He worked in intensive care at Carswell Air Force Base, Texas; was the family practice nurse manager at Robins AFB, Ga.; and a flight nurse and chief of aircrew scheduling for Europe, the Middle East and Africa during an assignment at Ramstein Air Base, Germany.

He arrived at Brooks in 1999 and volunteers in the base speakers bureau and supports tour requests to flight nursing.

He enjoys interacting with young people with the goal always being to create opportunities for them to apply their knowledge to the world around them - specifically to what he teaches them in flight nursing and aircraft.





Feature



By Cerise Fenton
311th Human Systems Wing Public Affairs
Comments? cerise.fenton@brooks.af.mil

In this day and age, it's becoming less and less common to meet someone who truly has roots, especially around the military community. But for Darlene Mahavier, the management analyst for the 311th Air Base Group Civil Engineer Squadron, San Antonio is what she knows.

Mahavier was born in Germany while her father was serving in the Army there but a transfer to Fort Sam Houston, where he would retire, brought them to San Antonio when she was just three weeks old. And here's where she's stayed.

Some 40 years later, Mahavier is still deeply rooted in San Antonio. From her years in the Judson school district to her 21 years in civil service, she has spent her life right here.

In 1980, on the advice of her father, Mahavier began her civil service career as a clerk in the civil engineer squadron at Brooks. As she worked her way through the ranks, she held numerous positions including service call clerk, management assistant and industrial engineering technician. She briefly left Brooks for a job at Fort Sam Houston with the San Antonio Real Property Maintenance Agency, but returned to her current job in 1989.

It's the diversity of her job in CE that keeps her motivated, she said. She values the opportunity to get involved in projects outside of her own position and considers herself a 'jack of all trades.'

"Where else, other than CE, do you get to do all of these things," she said.

Apparently, she is recognized for her willingness to go that step above and beyond.

Mahavier calls SA 'home'

"There is no mission that Darlene will not volunteer to do and make it happen with low profile, complete and positive results," said Edward Kadlecsek, the director of CE. "She is a totally dedicated team member with a positive, can-do attitude. She is not only superior in her own position but has, on numerous occasions, assisted the Air Base Group and the Wing as part of their team in areas of personnel, resources and management projects."

As the management analyst at CE, her job encompasses all personnel actions, as a liaison between 143 CE personnel and the civilian personnel office. She also takes care of timecards, payroll, manpower issues and special studies, as well as anything extra that doesn't fit anywhere else, she said.

Of course there are times when Mahavier has thought of spreading her wings, initiating a change, and has even extended the effort a time or two by submitting applications for out-of-state positions, but nothing ever came of it. She may leave civil service one day and pursue her interest in human resources as a second career, but she isn't apt to up and leave Texas at this point.

Particularly since Mahavier's husband of 16 years, Ron, a former CE employee, is also a native Texan. While she was attending Judson schools, he attended Highlands. Even his three children attended one of the two schools.

Eventually, Mahavier hopes to spend at least some time outside of Texas traveling with her husband. Every August they vacation in Colorado, but she's hoping for more. With retirement another 12 years away, she's already thinking of traveling, especially to California and Florida, despite the fact that she doesn't like water.

What Mahavier does like is her family, her friends and her pets. She has two sisters, three stepchildren, one perfect grandchild, one horse and two dogs, which altogether accounts for her greatest accomplishment, her most prized possessions and her secret love.

Mahavier's secret is her love of animals. However, those who know her know that OK, her 16-year old horse, follows her like a puppy, she keeps pictures of her 10-year old dog Madison in

her office, and she rescued an abandoned dog from Brooks three years ago. Coincidentally, his name is Sidney Brooks. "If only I could, I'd rescue them all," she said.

In her spare time Mahavier enjoys movies, reading and going to San Antonio Spurs and Missions games. She also enjoys tennis and golf but said she isn't much good at either. Although she has played in a few base golf tournaments, she admits she had to barter to get on the teams, and hopes one day to find someone with the patience to really teach her to play. Now how hard can that be in Texas?



FULL NAME:
Darlene Mahavier
DUTY TITLE,
ORGANIZATION:
*Management analyst,
311th Air Base Group
Civil Engineers*
WHAT IS MY JOB?:
*Take care of the man-
power, personnel and
special studies required
by Civil Engineers; i.e.,
"Jack of all trades"*
BIRTHDAY:
Nov. 26, 1957
HOMETOWN:
San Antonio
FAMILY STATUS:
*Married to Ron, a former
CE employee, with three
stepchildren and one
perfect grandson*
HOBBIES:
*Reading, playing tennis
and golf*
PET PEEVE:
Rude People



Mahavier
I JOINED CIVIL
SERVICE BECAUSE:
*My father told me to —
daughters always do what
their fathers tell them*
ULTIMATE GOAL:
Get a college degree
IF I WON THE LOTTERY,
I'D:
*Give to the church, help
my family and give to the
Humane Society*
ONLY MY BEST
FRIENDS KNOW THAT:
*I'm an animal lover and, if
I could, I'd take in all the
strays*
MY GREATEST
ACCOMPLISHMENT IS:
Marrying my husband
MY MOST PRIZED
POSSESSION IS:
My family and friends



SPORTS TRIVIA

The answer to last issue's trivia question was that George "Peggy" Parrott threw the first authenticated pass completion to Dan "Bullet" Riley in 1916 in a victory over Benwood-Moundsville.

Only one person got the answer correct and all three of the bonus questions, as well. Jay Wilson was the smart guy and by answering them all, jumped into the early lead in this year's competition. Sean Houghton answered the trivia question correctly and the first bonus to pick up two points.

Tom Kuhn got close to answering this question correctly. He guessed that Chris O'Brien was the passer, which is wrong, but his guess on the nickname was nearly right — he guessed "Patty." Close, but no cigar, as they say. Lisa Williams guessed "Knute Rockne." I guess she saw the movie. Defending champion Tom Ray also hazarded a guess and jumped on the Chris O'Brien bandwagon, but he was wrong, too. His take on last issue's question: "Holy Smokes!"

2001 standings are:

1. Tech. Sgt. Jay Wilson — 5 points
- T2. Senior Airman Sean Houghton, Staff Sgt. Tom Ray, Lisa Williams and Tech. Sgt. Tom Kuhn — 2 1/2 points
- T6. Staff Sgt. Jared Isaacs, Rob Sullivan and Mel Waldgeir — 1 point
9. 2nd Lt. Eric Dosser — 1/2 point

Here is question No. 4; this time the subject is track and field:

4. Besides winning five gold medals in one Olympics, Jesse Owens set a track and field record for tying or setting the most world records in one day. How many did he tie or set?
- a. 4 b. 3 c. 5 d. 6

Jesse Owens gets ready to run in this photo taken while the track and field star was a student at Ohio University. (Courtesy photo)



Here are the rules:

QUESTIONS: Trivia questions for our contest are derived from many sources, therefore it is not possible to quote any one source. If there is a disagreement as to whether the question and answer are correct, contact the *Discovery* and we will consider your request. All decisions made by the *Discovery* staff are final.

ANSWERS: Answers must be received by the *Discovery* staff by close of business the Friday the week after the *Discovery* is published. In other words, you have a week to decide and email us at **Discovery@brooks.af.mil**. All entries received after that date will be discarded. If you don't have access to email, you can fax your answers to **536-3235**.

SCORING: All correct answers are worth one point. All incorrect answers are worth half a point. This is done for two reasons: to help keep tie scores from happening and to give those who take the time to enter some recognition for their efforts. If there is a bonus question included, a correct bonus answer is also worth one point and an incorrect one is worth half a point. However, you must answer the original question correctly to be eligible for bonus points. The person with the most points after the last issue of the year will be declared the winner of the *Discovery* Sports Trivia contest. In the event of a tie, the person with the most correct answers during the year will be the winner.

Morale, team building key to varsity volleyball plans

By Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing

Comments? rudolph.purificato@brooks.af.mil

Brooks' men's and women's varsity volleyball teams may be taking a divergent approach to preparing for the upcoming season, but both squads believe they can make adjustments that may help them realize their collective goal of winning a championship.

Men's varsity coach Lorenzo McFarland and women's varsity coach Jose Murillo are determined to make improvements toward rebuilding their teams after losing many key players.

"My top priority is to recruit a new setter after losing Jesse Moreno," said McFarland about a key player who helped their team to a second place finish last year at the Air Force Materiel Command tournament at Hill Air Force Base, Utah. Another key player on Brooks' overachieving 'Cinderella' team, strong side hitter Tom Eggers, will also not be returning.

"We have only four returning starters," McFarland noted, including himself, Jose Murillo, Davey Bass and Donald Wooden.

"I don't think morale was a factor last year. Our morale was up, but [some] of our newer players made mental mistakes. I believe fatigue may have contributed to those mistakes," McFarland said in referring to the championship game in which Brooks lost to eventual AFMC winner Robins AFB.

McFarland, whose PCS on base from the U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine to the Air Force Medical Operations Agency ensured him returning as coach, said he plans to get his players into better shape so that they won't run out of steam in the post-season. "My game plan is still the same. Defense wins games. Digging and blocking the ball are important keys to winning," he said.

Murillo, who was named Most Valuable Player at the AFMC tourney as a Brooks men's team back row specialist, said their squad of relatively inex-

perienced players really came together as a team en route to the tournament.

"Coach McFarland had arranged for us to play a series of scrimmage games at Peterson AFB, Colorado. Those games made a big difference in how we later played at the AFMC tourney. We adjusted to each other very quickly. We definitely had the talent to win the championship," Murillo said, admitting that over confidence and anger displayed in the championship game were factors that contributed to their ultimate defeat.

What Murillo is concerned about mostly as coach of the women's team is morale. "It's a challenge as a coach to try to bring out the best in every player." He said last year's squad of mostly inexperienced players never really achieved team chemistry. As a consequence, they did not make the final four during the AFMC tournament hosted at Brooks. Brooks lost in the opening round to eventual AFMC champion Edwards AFB in a two-set sweep that establish the tone for their overall tourney performance. Lack of on-court communication, aggressive play and concentration were key factors that contributed to the team's post-season woes.

"This year I'm going to expect 110 percent from my players. We have a new team with only a few returning veterans, but we're combining with Kelly AFB who have some experienced players," said Murillo.

Brooks returning starters include key blocker Jennifer Schultz and back row specialist Kimberly Mikle. Brooks newcomers feature Tashe Pravecsek, Jaime Rivas, Staycey Benton and Kristen Oberdick. Kelly AFB players joining the Brooks squad include Sherrie Mabry, Jennifer Kylander and Tammy Miller.

"We're going to concentrate on building morale and refining individual talents," Murillo said. Building confidence is a key to his game plan.

The AFMC women's tournament will be held April 3-7 at Kirtland AFB, N.M. The AFMC men's tourney is slated for April 18-24 at Hill AFB, Utah.



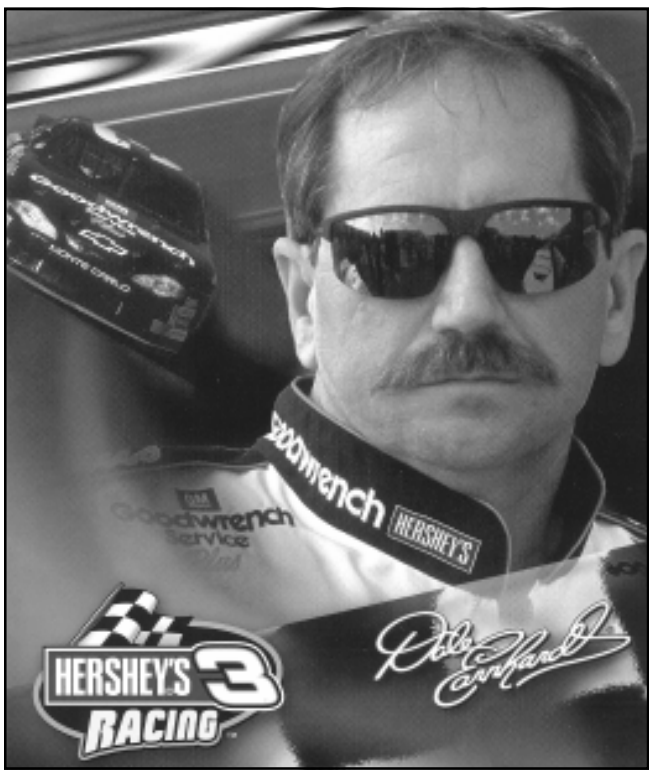
Ready to run or walk

Some of the 74 runners and walkers pose for a photo just minutes before taking off on the Brooks Valentine's Day 5K Run/2 mile walk Feb. 14. The event, sponsored by the fitness

center and the Brooks African-American Cultural Association, was held in honor of Black History Month. (Photo by Tech. Sgt. Pedro Ybanez)



Racing legend Earnhardt's car makes pit stop at Hangar 9



One of NASCAR legend Dale Earnhardt's racing cars made a pit stop at Brooks last week en route to Las Vegas. The car, No. 3, is in the upper left corner of this poster. (Poster courtesy Hershey's racing)

By Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing

Comments? rudolph.purificato@brooks.af.mil

Racing legend Dale Earnhardt's former test car made an unscheduled pit stop last week at Brooks when a retired Air Force master sergeant and his wife who were transporting it, pulled into the Hangar 9 parking lot.

James and Judy Cornwell, longtime friends of Brooks Heritage Foundation members Herb and Shelia Klein, were enroute from New Orleans to Las Vegas with Earnhardt's black racing car, a 2001 Chevy Monte Carlo sporting the racer's famous No. 3, when they stopped at Brooks to visit their friends. The Hangar 9 parking lot was selected for the nearly three-hour 'pit stop' because Shelia Klein

works at the adjacent U.S. Air Force Aeromedical Evacuation Annex.

"We stopped at Brooks last year with [NASCAR racer] Bill Elliott's car," said James Cornwell, showcar manager for Championship Group of Atlanta, the company that provides showcars for the Hershey's Corporation, one of Earnhardt's racing sponsors.

The Cornwells were gracious in allowing dozens of Brooks workers to view the famous car from inside its trailer. Because of Earnhardt's tragic death at age 49 in a last lap crash at the Daytona 500 race earlier this month, the company that owns the late racer's former test car instructed the couple not to untrailer the vehicle for public view as part of a post-accident mourning period. "They didn't tell us not to open up the trailer so people could see the car," Cornwell said, referring to curious Brooks fans who flocked to view it.

"[Since] we picked up the car on Jan. 17, we've had [countless] people stop to see it. We even had people who saw our trailer parked at a New Orleans hotel have the desk clerk ring our room offering to help us. They were strangers who didn't want anything from us other than the opportunity to do something for him [Earnhardt]. It has been absolutely incredible," Cornwell said in describing the tremendous following Earnhardt had.

"Auto racing fans are extremely loyal. He was like the 'Michael Jordan' of racing," Cornwell said of Earnhardt. His racing No. 3 became synonymous with success. Earnhardt and Richard Petty share the record as seven-time Winston Cup Champions.

Cornwell was particularly affected by Earnhardt's death, having briefly gotten to know him. "I first met him at a race. He was very intense, focused on what he did."

The Cornwells are also focused in their commitment to helping promote auto racing. Since becoming a showcar driver in 1997, Cornwell and his wife annually spend 10 and a half months transporting Hershey's-sponsored showcars for promotionals throughout America. "Last year we visited 30 states and traveled 33,000 miles."

Earnhardt's car is the most famous of the many racing vehicles the couple has transported. "It is a



James and Judy Cornwell pose in front of the trailer carrying the late Dale Earnhardt's famous No. 3 racing car. (Photo by Rudy Purificato)

short-track test car that Earnhardt tested in Martinsville, Va. It didn't perform the way he wanted it to, so it wasn't used. It was turned into a showcar," Cornwell said.

The car, valued before Earnhardt's death at \$150,000, is fully operational with a 750-horse power engine providing a top racing speed of 210 miles per hour. "I've driven the car from the trailer and around some parking lots, but I haven't taken it out of first gear," said Cornwell, a lifelong racing fan and former KC-135 boom operator.

Thanks to the Cornwells' association with the Kleins, Brooks people were given a rare glimpse at a vehicle that probably has already become priceless due to its connection with the racing legend. "Col. Klein was my boss when I served with him in the 6512 Test Squadron at Edwards [Air Force Base, Calif.] from 1973-81," Cornwell said.

It was during that time that Cornwell got to know another famous American who also died tragically, former Air Force pilot turned astronaut Dick Scobee, who was killed in the Challenger shuttle disaster. The irony wasn't lost on Cornwell when he noticed Earnhardt's trailered car was parked within feet of the Challenger Learning Center.

Winning team had it 'Ruff' during AACA golf tourney

By Steve VanWert

Discovery editor

A casual observer during the afternoon of Feb. 23 might have reasonably assumed the scattered groups of wet, wind-driven, strong-willed men and women trudging through the mud and muck were postal workers living out their famous creed, "Neither snow, nor rain, nor heat, nor gloom of night stays these couriers from the swift completion of their appointed rounds." But no, the rounds these hardy sportsmen and women were trying to complete were rounds of golf during the annual African-American Cultural Association Black History Month golf tournament.

Despite the threatening weather, one by one the teams handed in their soaked scorecards and, after going through a series of four tiebreakers, a winner was crowned. The team of Roy Ruff Jr., Howard Lusk, Bill VanBuskirk and Elton Hudgins toured the Brooks Golf Course in an impressive, if dripping, 64 to claim their prize.

A special Commander's Sportsmanship Award (for finishing last) went to the team of Calvin Johnson, Tony Brown, Thomas Bennett and Jimmy Scott.

Profits from this annual scramble-style tournament go to the Bernard P. Randolph Scholarship Fund, which raises money and awards scholarships to area high school seniors and college students.



From left, Howard Lusk, Bill VanBuskirk and Elton Hudgins hold their first place plaques after the Brooks African-American Cultural Association golf tournament Feb. 23. Their team, including Roy Ruff Jr., won the tournament by carding a 64. (Courtesy photo)

SPORTS shorts

C.A.M.P. Jog-a-thon

The 21st annual C.A.M.P. Jog-a-thon is from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. April 21 at Northside Stadium on Loop 410 near Ingram Mall.

Participants can register as individuals or in teams.

For more information, or to register, call Katy Sloniker at 292-3575.

Harmony Hill 10K walk

The Randolph Roadrunners Volkssport Club presents a 10K walk (with optional 5K trail) starting at Taco Flats Grill and Cantina, 12403 West Ave., San Antonio, March 10.

Start time is from 8 a.m. until noon. The event is free unless participants wish formal credit or an award. Participants age 12 or younger will receive a free award of their choice from the display board.

There is no preregistration. The event is sanctioned by the American Volkssport Association.

For more information, call tom or Linda Elms at 659-2668 or email the club at ranroad@flash.net.

Tour de Ranch at LBJ park

Cyclists who have not cycled the Tour de France can participate in the Lyndon B. Johnson Historical Park's Tour de Ranch by biking the LBJ Ranch beginning at 10 a.m. Saturday.

Participants must provide their own bikes and helmets, which are mandatory for the duration of the tour. Children younger than age 12 are not permitted. Call the tour coordinator at (830) 644-2420 between 9 a.m.-5 p.m. to reserve a place.